

FREE ENGLISH & SCOTTISH SECOND DIVISION
INSIDE: TEAM-TABS FOR OUR LEAGUE LADDERS

SHOOT!

15p

3rd SEPTEMBER, 1977

In colour:

**Focus on
JIMMY
CASE**

Liverpool

**Scotland
and
Sheffield
United
team groups**

**Our new
signing
RAY
WILKINS**

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NEWS DESK

COMPILED BY PETER STEWART

★ DAVIE COOPER, Rangers new signing, received an award before he had even kicked a ball for the club.

When they played Highland League club Ross County in a pre-season friendly, the Inverness branch of the Rangers Supporters Club presented Davie with a statuette to mark the occasion of his debut.

DID YOU MISS OUT LAST WEEK?

IF YOU failed to obtain our start-of-the-season issue from the shops, then hard luck. Because we're completely out of stock.

But don't despair. Here's some good news. We have a limited number of League Ladders, complete with team-tabs for the English First Division and Scottish First and Premier, in reserve.

All you have to do to obtain them is follow the instructions printed below.

To ensure you don't miss the team-tabs that complete the set, which will be presented next week — and also the covers of an exciting new booklet (to be compiled from the pages of the magazine over a period of 17 weeks) given away with the following issue — I'd advise you to place a regular order with your newsagent now.

SHOOT sells fast — so book your copy in advance.

David Gregory

EDITOR

Write your name and address in BLOCK CAPITALS on an envelope, size 11" x 8" wide, and put a 9p stamp on it. Then send the envelope to the address below... but make sure the envelope is at least 11" x 8" otherwise it will not be big enough to hold the League Ladders and team-tabs.

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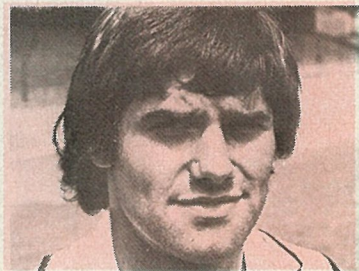
PLEASE DO NOT ENCLOSE ANY CORRESPONDENCE WITH YOUR ENVELOPE OTHERWISE IT WILL SLOW DOWN DESPATCH.

CHRIS Guthrie (below) is a player with a mission this season. He means to prove at Swindon he is a striker to be respected.

The former Southend forward joined Sheffield United in a £100,000 deal in April, 1974. He was at Bramall Lane for just over three years but failed to live up to his value.

Now Swindon, who paid £25,000 for him in the close-season, are hoping his determination to prove himself again will result in a lot of goals for them... goals that can help put them back in the Second Division.

So the former England schoolboy international can now put his unhappy days at Bramall Lane behind him in the sure knowledge that the ball is at his feet.



Chelsea manager welcomes player-power

KEN SHELLITO, the new Chelsea boss, will be quite happy to see player-power at Stamford Bridge.

The 37-year-old successor to Eddie McCreadie is new to management... so he is eager to learn from everybody.

He says: "I shan't be making many changes. I want to keep things running smoothly."

"Of course, I have my own ideas about the game, but I shall be happy to listen to my players."

"It's silly asking a player to do something he's unhappy about. He's not as effective under these conditions."

"I prefer to talk things over rather than rant and rave all over the place."

Shellito was facing the Press for the first time and while a little apprehensive at first, left the impression he certainly won't be a "soft touch".

For instance, all players must now wear a collar and tie on match days... Shellito aims to make Chelsea smart on AND of the pitch.

F.A. of Ireland Cup winners Dundalk have persuaded Hadjuk Split to switch the order of their European Cup-Winners' Cup-ties.

As a result, Dundalk will play host in the first-leg on September 14 and are confident of attracting a bumper crowd.

ADVICE FOR REVIE

IF Don Revie wants any help or advice when he starts work as supremo of the United Arab Emirates F.A. he has only to call on Pat Saward.

Former Brighton boss Saward has been in Dubai for the past two years as manager of the biggest club, Al Nasr.

"We provide most of the players for the national team, so it seems certain I shall be working with Don at some stage or other," said Saward.

"I'm sure I can be of use to him — after all, I've got a couple of years' start on him and know all the pitfalls he can expect."

"The Arabs deserve to become a power in world football after being brave enough to put a lot of money about."

JOHN GIDMAN, Aston Villa's England international defender, is expected to be out of the game for at least another six weeks.

John has a groin injury, similar to that which kept him out of action for the final two months of last season.

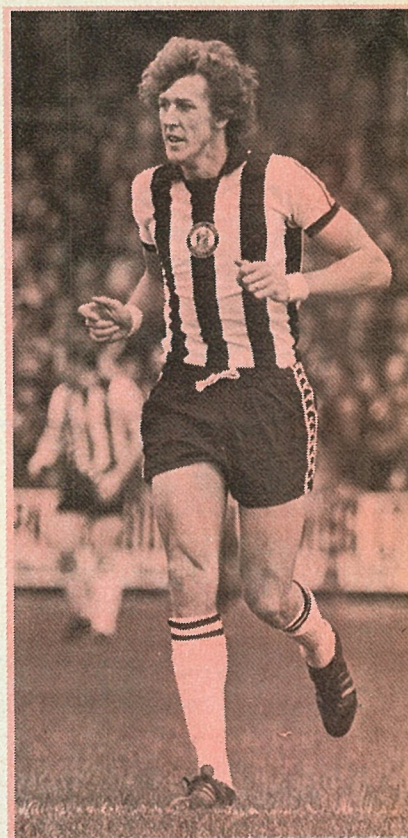
ENGLAND STARS 'BOOKED'

Mike Channon and Trevor Brooking were shown yellow cards recently... yet neither of the England stars was on the field!

Along with top referee Jack Taylor, they helped to launch a new scheme to combat under-age drinking on licensed premises.

Two million yellow cards are being distributed around pubs and it is hoped a "friendly warning" to youngsters will help counter the growing abuse of alcohol.

Now, if a publican thinks someone is under 18, instead of arguing he'll show the teenager a yellow card.



NEWCASTLE'S dispute with their contract rebels brought a host of enquiries from eager clubs. Top target was striker Alan Gowling (above). Leicester, Bristol City, Everton, Middlesbrough and West Ham were among those clubs keeping a close watch on the situation at St. James' Park.

PARTICK Thistle manager Bertie Auld has adopted a "get tough" attitude with two of his players, mid-field-man Harry Johnston and defender John Marr.

Both players were several days late in returning for pre-season training and Auld immediately fined and disciplined them before placing them on the transfer list.

PUNK ROCK 'KEEPER

AYR UNITED 'keeper Hugh Sproat aims to be razor-sharp in more senses than one this season.

Hugh is now wearing earrings... in the shape of razor blades! Why? "Because I'm a punk rock fan," admits Hugh, "and they're all the rage."

One is green (for Celtic) and the other is blue (for Rangers). Hugh won't be allowed to wear them during games, though. Referees are bound to order them to be removed in case they are dangerous.

On a more serious note... Ayr have signed former Celtic 'keeper Denis Connaghan as cover for Sproat. Denis was freed at the end of last season after a short spell with Clydebank.

● The £15,000 Hamilton Accies paid Motherwell for former Liverpool and Coventry striker Bobby Graham is a club record fee.

GLASGOW RANGERS turned down a bid of £120,000 from Birmingham for striker Derek Parlane and general manager Willie Waddell was reported as stating: "We don't deal in peanuts." Not, perhaps the most diplomatic of statements. But at least it proved to the doubters that there are wealthy clubs in Scotland.

JIMMY Headridge, a backroom boy at Middlesbrough, is all set to strike it rich. The 37-year-old trainer-physiotherapist has landed a plum job in the Persian Gulf. Glasgow-born Headridge will look after the football in a new multi-million pound sports complex in Ras-Al-Khaimah. No Scot could turn down a two-year contract worth £20,000 a year tax free!

An F.A. staff lecturer, Jimmy is one of the unsung heroes behind Middlesbrough's rise from the Third Division.

GRAHAM Taylor, the former Lincoln manager who moved on as Watford boss in June this year, didn't waste any time in getting one of the defenders he has always been keen on.

He went to Notts County and paid £10,000 for 22-year-old Ian Bolton.

Taylor has eyed Bolton for a long time and, in fact, had him for a trial period from August, 1976, at Lincoln but finally had to let him return to Meadow Lane.

Having also signed his old Lincoln captain and central-defender Sam Ellis it is evident the enterprising Taylor is intent on tightening things up at the back.

WOLVES aim to turn Molineux into a £10m super stadium to hold 45,000 spectators, half of them seated. Work should start within the next 18 months.

Benefit boost

LEICESTER CITY'S long-serving defender Alan Woollett had his testimonial fund boosted by a golf tournament. It raised around £400 with well over 70 players competing at Kibworth.

Top prize worth £100 went to Lance Davies, an 18-handicap member of the host club, who notched 38 points. And Andrew Dathan, a Staffordshire county player, took the scratch prize for his round of 75.

Among Woollett's Leicester City club-mates who played were Brian Alderson, Steve Kember, Mark Wallington and Keith Weller. Woollett expects to receive around £10,000 from his benefit year.

Charlton's new striker could be another Derek Hales



CHARLTON feel they may have unearthed another Derek Hales in the form of swarthy Laurie Abrahams (above).

Manager Andy Nelson, who signed Abrahams from Isthmian League side Barking, has high hopes of the 24-year-old striker.

"He looks like Hales, he moves like Hales and if he scores goals like Hales you won't hear too many complaints from us," says Nelson.

Abrahams proved a prolific scorer with Barking. Many clubs kept a close watch on him for months. But until Nelson made his move in the close season none were prepared to back their judgment and sign him.

● Laurie is no stranger to Charlton star striker Micky Flanagan. They were school-mates together.

IT'S sad to see Fulham in severe financial difficulties and the Football League slapped a ban on them buying players. Yet, it was because Portsmouth hadn't paid off the transfer money owing to Fulham for defender Paul Went that the South Coast had a similar ban imposed on them in 1974. And isn't it sad to think that Workington were slung out of the League . . . not owing a penny for players?

'SHAMROCK ROVERS—THE HARDEST JOB OF MY CAREER'

says new boss

JOHNNY GILES



AFTER almost 20 years of First Division football with Manchester United, Leeds United and West Brom, Johnny Giles will step out for his League of Ireland debut on Sunday (August 28).

Giles will be helping his new club, Shamrock Rovers, in their opening League game away to F.A.I. Cup holders Dundalk.

After months of speculation since he resigned as manager of West Brom, Giles finally announced at a Press conference in Dublin he had acquired a 50 per cent interest in Shamrock Rovers plus the titles of executive director and player-manager.

It means a return to his native Dublin for the 36-years-old Giles, who left schoolboy club Stella Maris for Old Trafford back in 1956 as a Busby Babe.

After winning an F.A. Cup winner's medal in 1963, he was transferred to Leeds United where he added League, League Cup and F.A. Cup honours to his collection.

Two years ago he moved to West Brom as player-manager and, in his first season, he guided them to promotion from the Second Division.

Giles' first managerial experience was with the Republic of Ireland side and he has helped them to a more respectable rating in world soccer.

Now he turns to the toughest challenge of his career — to "help Irish football stand on its own feet — to set standards to be

followed by others rather than for us to be led," as he put it himself.

"No one should think I am going into semi-retirement," he added. "This is going to be the hardest work I've ever had to do, but I relish the challenge."

Giles aims to create a full-time set-up at Rovers' Milltown stadium and his first captures were Republic of Ireland internationals, Ray Treacy, released by West Brom, and Eamonn Dunphy, the former Millwall and Reading midfielder.

Re-election

In addition to his position at Shamrock Rovers, Giles has also been approached by League of Ireland officials to promote the League.

And there is still over a year of his contract as international team-manager to run.

His club, Shamrock Rovers, are the most successful in the League of Ireland, being winners of the League ten times and F.A.I. Cup winners 20 times. However, they have not had much success in recent years and had to apply for re-election last term for the first time ever.

Sean Thomas, who was appointed manager for the second time last season, guided the club to a League Cup victory, but resigned when the directors made an offer to Giles.

We certainly wish Johnny and his new club every success.

Banjo in tune

LOOK out for Tunji Banjo . . . he could become quite a player!

He's a 17-year-old coloured winger at Orient, the club that discovered and developed Laurie Cunningham.



APART from football, Hibs winger Arthur Duncan (above) is also interested in cocker spaniels. He has four at his home in Breich, West Lothian, and plans to start breeding from them soon.

Hibs fans were puzzled as to why their 28-year-old star had chosen this breed. Duncan's so fast on the left-wing at Easter Road they'd expected him to be breeding and training greyhounds.

Last season his name was linked with Rangers but interest fell through after the Ibrox side got their sights on Clydebank's Davie Cooper. But Arthur's not unhappy and he hopes the new season will be a successful one for the Edinburgh team.

RAY Bishop, a former telephone exchange worker, is hoping to ring the bell in the goalscoring stakes now he is with Cardiff.

The Hengoed-born striker in his first full season as a professional at Ninian Park will be 22 in November and feels the time is ripe for him to make a real impact.

But don't get the idea he is a raw youngster. He has already had some solid experience with Bargoed YMCA, Tredomen, Ton Pentre and Cheltenham Town.

SUPERSTAR COMPETITION RESULT

WHAT makes a football superstar? That was the theme of our Spring-time competition in which readers were invited to place qualities in order of importance in a superstar.

Having carefully considered all entries, the judging panel — which included Jock Stein — decided that the best received was that sent by DAVID MARTIN, of Methven, Perthshire, who had marked: 1st — E; 2nd — K; 3rd — A; 4th — M; 5th — C; 6th — B; 7th — D; 8th — L.

Senders of the five next best attempts were STEVEN CARPENTER, Kettering; NICOLAS EKKESIES, London, N18; ALAN FAHY, Galway; RICHARD HALL, Sutton Coldfield, and MICHAEL LINNANE, Luton.

All these readers win a self-catering holiday for up to four people at a Pontin's centre — either this year or next year.

● **RESULT OF PONTIN'S SIX-A-SIDE FINAL** — at Wembley, August 13th. Arsenal beat Q.P.R. on penalties. This is The Gunners' second successive win.

HUDDERSFIELD, disappointed at missing promotion back to the Third Division last term, are looking to a bunch of talented youngsters to get them there this time.

Among them are full-back Paul Gartland and midfielder Terry Armstrong, who both made their League debuts towards the end of last season at Swansea.

Town also have high hopes of another midfielder-man Peter Howey and striker Wayne Goldthorpe, who had a spell on loan to Hartlepool.

GOAL-LINES

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When writing to us please mention the two features you
liked best in the latest issue of SHOOT!

REVIE

NOW that the new "S" registrations are in force, how about this for Don Revie's car: OAS 1S! I'd have thought this would suit him down to the ground!

T. LINTON,
NORWICH.

● Perhaps SHE 1K would be even more fitting in his new job out in the Middle East.

Who was first?

MOST people refer to Laurie Cunningham as the first black player to appear for England.

In fact, Bob Hazell of Wolves played for England Youth two months before Cunningham's Under-21 debut.

A. CHAPMAN,
GOSPEL END.

● There have been black players at other levels, too, but the Under-21 side (and, before that, the Under-23 team) is regarded as a "senior" cap, which is why Cunningham (below) goes into the history books.



Women's soccer

ANY GIRLS, aged 12-21, interested in playing women's football on Sunday afternoons; whether or not they've played before, should contact me.

SUE WAKEMAN,
MILLWALL LIONESSES
FOOTBALL CLUB,
4 THORNDON CLOSE,
ST. PAULS CRAY,
ORPINGTON, KENT.

Irresponsible Press

I WAS ANNOYED to see the amount of publicity given to the trivial incident in Australia involving Alan Hudson and Malcolm Macdonald.

Surely it's Press coverage like this that gives soccer a bad name? How often do we hear about the dedication of players such as Bobby Charlton and Ian Callaghan?

No wonder the game's in a state when reporters are only too willing to print the worst before discovering the true facts.

MAUREN ADAMS,
COLERAINE.

● I thought Arsenal handled the Australian Affair very clumsily, and the two players concerned acted like anything but responsible professionals. Predictably, instead of explaining what happened to the Press (and therefore the Arsenal fans who pay their wages) they waited until the Sunday papers offered them generous sums of money for their stories. If clubs and players won't release the truth, what else can reporters do but speculate?

Pen-friend

I'M A 16-year-old Canadian girl and I'd like pen-friends in the U.K. My favourite teams are Liverpool and Hearts.

TINA WHEELER,
2418-48 GLENWOOD SCH. DR.,
BURLINGTON,
ONTARIO L7R 3S2,
CANADA.

This week's Star Letter comes from Alasdair Evans of Chepstow in Gwent, who wins our Special Prize of £3. He writes:

T.V. LUCKY FOR LIVERPOOL

A NEW season of Match of the Day got under way last week with its first two League games of the campaign.

Will the big clubs once again enjoy all the publicity on the B.B.C. show? Judging by last season they will.

Liverpool's highly successful season was reflected by 13 appearances on the Saturday show, four more than either of the Manchester clubs.

The Reds won't complain as they lost just once in front of the cameras — the F.A. Cup Final at Wembley, but even this wasn't a "true" Match of the Day.

How different for Manchester City who, although runners-up, lost six of their nine games on "the box", scoring just nine goals, six of these in one game against Leicester.

Aston Villa, too, had a bad season on B.B.C., winning only one game.

Malcolm Macdonald hit a memorable milestone, scoring the 100th goal on M.O.T.D. — against Newcastle, his former club, in Arsenal's 5-3 victory.

Other peculiarities were Sunderland, who drew all four matches, and Leicester, who conceded 11 goals in their first two appearances.

Bruce Rioch (right) did more than force a replay when he scored

Everton's late equaliser in the Merseyside F.A. Cup Semi-Final. It was the 200th goal of the season to be analysed by that Arab supremo Jimmy Hill.

In all, 219 goals were scored, the top score being Brighton's seven against York. The best edition was undoubtedly December 4th: Arsenal 5, Newcastle 3; and Leicester 2, Birmingham 6.

Or in the words of a certain commentator: "If you blink you'll miss a goal!"

● An interesting set of figures. Inevitably the big clubs will have the most coverage, but it's true to say that some of the best soccer action comes from "downstairs" as Brighton proved against York.



Juventus best

I HAVE compiled a table of some of the top clubs in Europe based on last season's Leagues.

I think it makes interesting reading:

CLUB	Pts	P	%
Juventus	51	30	85
FC Bruges	52	34	76.5
Ajax	52	34	76.5
Nantes	58	38	76.3
Sligo	39	26	75
Halmstad	39	26	75
Liverpool	57	42	67.8
At. Madrid	46	34	67.6
Bor. MG	44	34	64.7

So Italian Champions Juventus had the best success rate for 1976/77.

RICHARD OAKLEY,
WHITCHURCH.

● I think it will take a very good team indeed to stop Juve from winning this season's European Cup.

England's failure

WHAT difference will it make whether England are in Argentina or not? Take Liverpool and Manchester United, for example. Are they going to be bothered whether England reach the World Cup Finals?

Of course not. English football will go on forever whatever the fortune of the national team.

Even though England probably won't be in Argentina, I'm still looking forward to the Finals, which will provide a welcome contrast to the "bread and butter" of League football.

NICHOLAS BIDWELL,
BECCLES.

● Domestic soccer is always boosted when a country reaches the World Cup Finals. Apart from creating more interest in the game, it also provides much-needed money for the national association to develop its game.

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The 1977 Charity Shield provided an interesting, if somewhat unspectacular, start to the new season. Understandably with the League just a week away, neither Liverpool nor Manchester United were at full power, but provided enough entertainment to send the 82,000 fans away happy. There was no winner or loser at Wembley this time — the 0-0 draw means the clubs will share the trophy for six months each. Our picture shows Manchester United striker Jimmy Greenhoff (left) and Liverpool defender Phil Thompson in action.

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YOUNG LADS with the ambition to become professional goalkeepers continually seek my advice, so I've decided to devote this week's column to passing on the benefit of my experience to a wide audience. I'm sure that the readership of SHOOT contains many aspiring goalkeepers. It's the most specialised position in the team and the requirements are very different from those needed outfield.

The first problem when embarking on a career in the pro. game is to decide at which level to start: with a club in the First Division or one at the other end of the scale?

I began with Scunthorpe United in the Fourth, and I would recommend anyone to "kick-off" at a low level.

There's more chance to play in the League, simply because clubs in the Third and Fourth are generally unable to buy class players and are forced to "grow" their own. Lads as

year, playing in the A team, I regularly had six or seven goals put past me in a game, and started to lose confidence, wonder if I'd ever make the grade.

I was called back two or three afternoons a week to be put through a rigorous routine of making saves in the sandpit beside the stand at the Old Show Ground.

It paid off. I improved tremendously and won promotion to the first team.

I firmly believe that 'keepers are born, not made. Even though I began at school playing outfield, it was my destiny to play between the sticks.

I started as a centre-forward and moved progressively backwards until there was nowhere else to go, other than the subs' bench.

Although I still fancy myself as a dashing striker in our six-a-sides at Melwood, Liverpool's training ground!

"Keepers are born, not made"

young as 17 are often thrown in at the deep end.

At a club like Liverpool, which has around 2,000 trialists a year, of which they may accept four as apprentices, the odds are massive against a young 'keeper breaking through.

Unlike a club such as Scunthorpe, Liverpool have no need to take a risk on a player in the hope he'll come up to standard. They can afford to go into the transfer market and buy someone up-and-coming at a comparatively poor club that needs the money.

A drawback in the Third and Fourth can be that the emphasis in training is based too much on developing stamina, which involves lots of running, usually cross country stuff. This is because football at the lower level, as far as outfield players are concerned, has the accent on all-out action for 90 minutes at the expense of skill.

A goalkeeper is the odd-man-out here, for in all types of football his job is basically the same. He needs to sharpen his reflexes, train as much as possible in simulated match situations.

I was fortunate at Scunthorpe. The first team 'keeper, Geoff Sidebottom, and the trainer, Jack Brownword, and the coach, the late Alan Bushby, took an interest in me just when I was beginning to lose heart and slacken off.

It was understandable. In my first



Apart from natural talent, I suppose agility is the main requirement in a 'keeper. And you must be able to fall properly without damaging yourself.

They say all 'keepers are crazy. I don't know about that, but courage is essential. Where the boots are flying is no place for the faint-hearted.

It may seem an obvious thing, but you must have a safe pair of hands. It's no good catching the ball and then dropping it or allowing it to rebound from you. This is a failing in so many Continental 'keepers.

Defenders feel so much more confident when they know their number one will hang on to the ball so there's no need for them to rush back to make a desperate clearance.

You must learn to study oppo-

'Dealing with crosses — the hardest part of the job'



RAY CLEMENCE
talking soccer

nents, discover their particular strengths and weaknesses in order to anticipate what they're likely to do in any given situation.

Life is easier for me in the First Division now that I've compiled my mental dossiers on the players I come up against season after season.

It's important to assert yourself, order "your" men around. Often by correctly positioning defenders you can avoid having to make a save.

Taking or dealing with crosses is, in my view, the most difficult part of the job. As soon as the kick is taken you must decide whether to come out or stay on your line. Hesitation can be fatal.

• If you come out, you should aim to make contact with the ball at its highest point. Don't take your eye

ABOVE . . . Ray collects a high ball v. Leicester.

RIGHT . . . and makes a spectacular penalty save against Dresden in a U.E.F.A. Cup-tie.

off it for a split-second.

And don't be caught in two minds about whether to catch or punch it.

Avoid having to make a standing jump. You won't get the height and can be beaten to the ball by a challenging forward.

When you're facing a penalty-taker, the dice are really loaded against your chances of successfully making a save. It's mainly a matter of guesswork deciding whether to stay put or which way to dive.

Try if possible to get your body

behind the ball in case the ball slips through your hands. Even if it means stopping it with your face!

Always remember that a goalkeeper's role is not entirely defensive. He can set his forwards on the attack.

At Liverpool, if I notice the other team have pushed too many men up, I'll try a long kick over the top of them for someone like Davey Fairclough to run on to, or for John Toshack to head on.

Last season, this move was

I expect West Brom to employ the same tactics as they used under their former player-manager, Johnny Giles, who sensationally resigned at the end of last season.

Johnny is a fantastic midfielder and is sure to achieve success back in his homeland with his new club, Shamrock Rovers.

West Brom tend to be a bit square at the back, but we're often accused of this and it doesn't appear to have done us much harm.

Last term they held us to a 1-1

'At a penalty, the dice are loaded against you'



responsible for around eight of our goals.

I could fill a book about goal-keeping — in fact I have. So if you want to know more about the tricks of my trade, I suggest you take a look at "Clemence on goal-keeping".

Now for my preview of Liverpool's next League game, at Anfield, against West Bromwich Albion.

The Midlands side are under new management. Their boss is now Ronnie Allen, a former player. Often it's a good thing for someone familiar with the set-up and traditions to take over a side.

draw. We hope to send them away pointless this time.

Dangermen are Tony Brown — who tested me with a mighty 25-yard volley — and Willie Johnston, a fast tricky winger.

Our Phil Neal, improving with every game, should be more than a match for Willie, though.

All the best —

Ray Clemence

HOW BOB PROVED HE'S THE MAN FOR THE LIVERPOOL JOB



Player, trainer, coach, assistant-manager, manager — with an apprenticeship like that behind him, it's hardly surprising soccer's top boss, Bob Paisley, has stored up an unrivalled fund of knowledge about the game.

DURING a career with Liverpool that dates back to 1939, manager Paisley topped his previous impressive achievements with the Anfield club by winning the European Cup at the end of last season. His feat in piloting the Merseysiders to success in Europe, and to the First Division Championship, invite the question of how he approached the task of taking over from the legendary Bill Shankly in 1974.

"It wasn't an easy start," says Bob. "Our right-back, Chris Lawler, had a knee injury, John Toshack had a virus which caused both knees to swell up, and Kevin Keegan had been suspended for a month. In fact, Kevin was so disenchanted with the game he seriously thought about packing it in. "But I told him to take a month's holiday and get married, which he

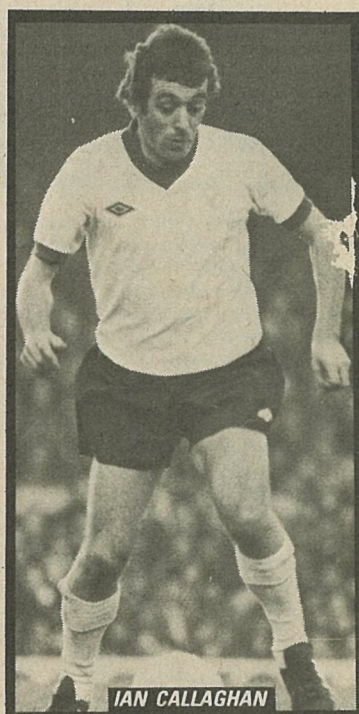
did — he sorted out his problems and returned to the side. And I bought Phil Neal to take the place of Chris Lawler. Then when centre-half Larry Lloyd left, our back-four took on a different look, with Phil Thompson and Emlyn Hughes forming the heart of the defence.

"Yet I was greatly helped in settling down as manager because of my past association with the players. I'd worked with them and knew their strengths and weaknesses, what made them tick — we had this relationship from the beginning."

But in spite of Bob's previous years with the club, there were critics who thought he would find it impossible to keep Liverpool ahead of their rivals. Though the doubters were proved wrong when The Reds were runners-up in the League in his first season, then



RIGHT ... Bob with the man he succeeded, the one and only Bill Shankly.



IAN CALLAGHAN



won the Championship and the U.E.F.A. Cup in 1975-76.

And to understand just how Bob Paisley has become a major managerial figure in the Seventies, it is necessary to go back to his playing days, when the character of the man was already evident. A member of the famed Bishop Auckland Amateur Cup-winning side of 1939, Bob signed for Liverpool soon after and was a regular choice for the Merseysiders at left-half in the first season of football proper following the 1939-45 War.

He was an unyielding, iron-hard tackler who combined this with intelligent distribution and a long throw-in from touch which was as valuable as a corner-kick to Liverpool when they were pressing.

The Anfield men won the First Division Championship in that 1946-7 season, aiming for the "double" but losing an F.A. Cup

Semi-Final replay to Burnley.

Even in those days, back in the Forties, Bob demonstrated a deeper-than-average capacity for thinking about the game which persisted right through his playing days. And in addition, he developed an insight and understanding of a player's feelings and viewpoint which explains part of his success in handling men.

When Bob became coach at Liverpool, it turned out to be one of the most difficult phases of his career, talking tactics to men who were his contemporaries and now had to recognise his authority.

But his coaching work was an important and necessary stepping stone to his present job as manager, just as his playing days had been, though one event in them was a crushing disappointment at the time.

Bob had scored one of Liverpool's winning goals in their F.A. Cup Semi-Final against Everton in 1950, only to learn he was left out of the team for the Final against Arsenal. It was a bitter blow, yet gave him the knowledge of how to deal with a difficult situation in last season's Liverpool versus Manchester United Final.

The long-serving and talented Ian Callaghan and "super-sub" David Fairclough were both left out of the line-up, and faced with the unwelcome task of naming a substitute, manager Paisley opted for Callaghan. And it is safe to assume that his own experience of 1950 equipped him to explain his decision to his players with tact and understanding.

But it was Bob Paisley's knowledge-in-depth on Continental football, which dominated Liverpool's approach to their European Cup Final with Borussia, that also stamps him as an outstanding tactician.

"In Rome, I knew we had to match the Germans at their own game," says Bob. "They wait patiently for their opponents to make a mistake, then take advantage of it — just as they punished us for our only error when they

Bob (back row, second right) lines-up for Liverpool in 1949. The manager is George Kay.

scored. But we were patient, and also we won because of the way we used Kevin Keegan against Bertie Vogts.

"Vogts tackles best on his right foot, so as far as possible Kevin led him to the side of the field where he had to tackle on his weak left side. This is how we got the penalty, Kevin coming at Vogts on his bad side, and being brought down in the box — on several other occasions, too, Bertie had grassed Kevin when he couldn't stop him any other way.

"Liverpool have had 13 years' experience in playing against Continental sides and know the way they operate. They adopt the waiting game and you must beat them at it — but most important, you

need the players to do it, and Liverpool have them."

Incredibly enough, it was when Liverpool were in the initial stages of competing for the fantastic treble of League Championship, F.A. Cup and European Cup, they had such players as Phil Thompson, Ian Callaghan and John Toshack on the injured list. But veteran Tommy Smith stepped into the vacant back-four spot in place of Thompson, and the club's all-round playing strength was up to the demands made in other departments.

This is the Anfield secret, their pool of dedicated players and the fitness and will-to-win that keeps them at the top. And manager Paisley explains how this is achieved.

"Selecting a player for Liverpool is a carefully thought-out business. I look for character, also ability to think quickly as well as skill — these are the basic qualities.

"Then there is the task of keeping players fit throughout a long season, and when they are involved in League and Cup competitions, as we are.

"I guard against over-training — we get fit early in the season, then depend on a sensible amount of training to retain peak condition. And the number of matches we play is one way of keeping fit.

"Yet there can always be upsets. There was a crucial spell for us last season when we had three reverses in a row against Ipswich, Villa and West Ham which seriously threatened our title chances.

"Still, all that's behind us — now I must look to the future. Kevin Keegan's gone, but our signing from Celtic, Kenny Dalglish, could prove to be a fine replacement.

"Also, in reviewing our agenda for the season, I haven't forgotten we lost the F.A. Cup Final in May. We might put that right next year."

Veteran Tommy Smith stepped in last season and did a great job at the back for The Reds.



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* 1972 Leeds 1, Arsenal 0.....	100ft
* 1971 Arsenal 2, Liverpool 1.....	200ft
1970 Chelsea 2, Leeds 2.....	100ft
1970 Chelsea 2, Leeds 1.....	100ft
1969 Man City 1, Leicester 0.....	100ft
1968 WBA 1, Everton 0.....	200ft
1967 Spurs 2, Chelsea 1.....	200ft
1966 Everton 3, Sheff. Wed. 2.....	300ft
1965 Liverpool 2, Leeds 1.....	200ft
1964 West Ham 3, Preston 2.....	200ft
1963 Man. Utd. 3, Leicester 1.....	200ft
1962 Spurs 3, Burnley 1.....	100ft
1960 Wolves 3, Blackburn 0.....	100ft
1959 Nott'ham F. 2, Luton 1.....	100ft
1958 Bolton 2, Man. Utd. 0.....	100ft
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1953 Blackpool 4, Bolton 3.....	100ft
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* 1974 W. Germany 2, Holland 1.....	200ft
* 1974 W. Germany 4, Sweden 2.....	200ft
* 1974 Holland 2, Brazil 0.....	200ft
* 1974 Holland 4, Argentina 0.....	200ft
* 1974 Holland 4, Bulgaria 1.....	200ft
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* 1974 Sweden 2, Yugoslavia 1.....	200ft
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1971 Ajax 2, Panathinaikos 0.....	100ft
1970 Feyenoord 2, Celtic 1.....	200ft
1969 Milan 4, Ajax 1.....	200ft
1968 Man Utd 4, Benfica 1.....	200ft/400ft
1968 Man. Utd. 3, Madrid 3 (semi-final).....	200ft
1967 Celtic 2, Inter Milan 1.....	200ft/400ft
1966 Man. Utd. 5, Benfica 1.....	200ft
1963 Milan 2, Benfica 1.....	200ft
1960 R. Madrid 7, Eintracht 3.....	200ft/400ft

EUROPEAN CUP WINNERS

1963 Spurs 5, At. Madrid 1.....	200ft
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* 1976 Man. City 2, Newcastle 1.....	200ft
* 1975 Aston Villa 1, Norwich 0.....	100ft
* 1974 Wolves 2, Man. City 1.....	100ft
1973 Spurs 1, Norwich 0.....	100ft
1972 Stoke 2, Chelsea 1.....	200ft
1971 Spurs 2, Aston Villa 0.....	50ft
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1968 Newcastle 3, Man. City 4.....	200ft
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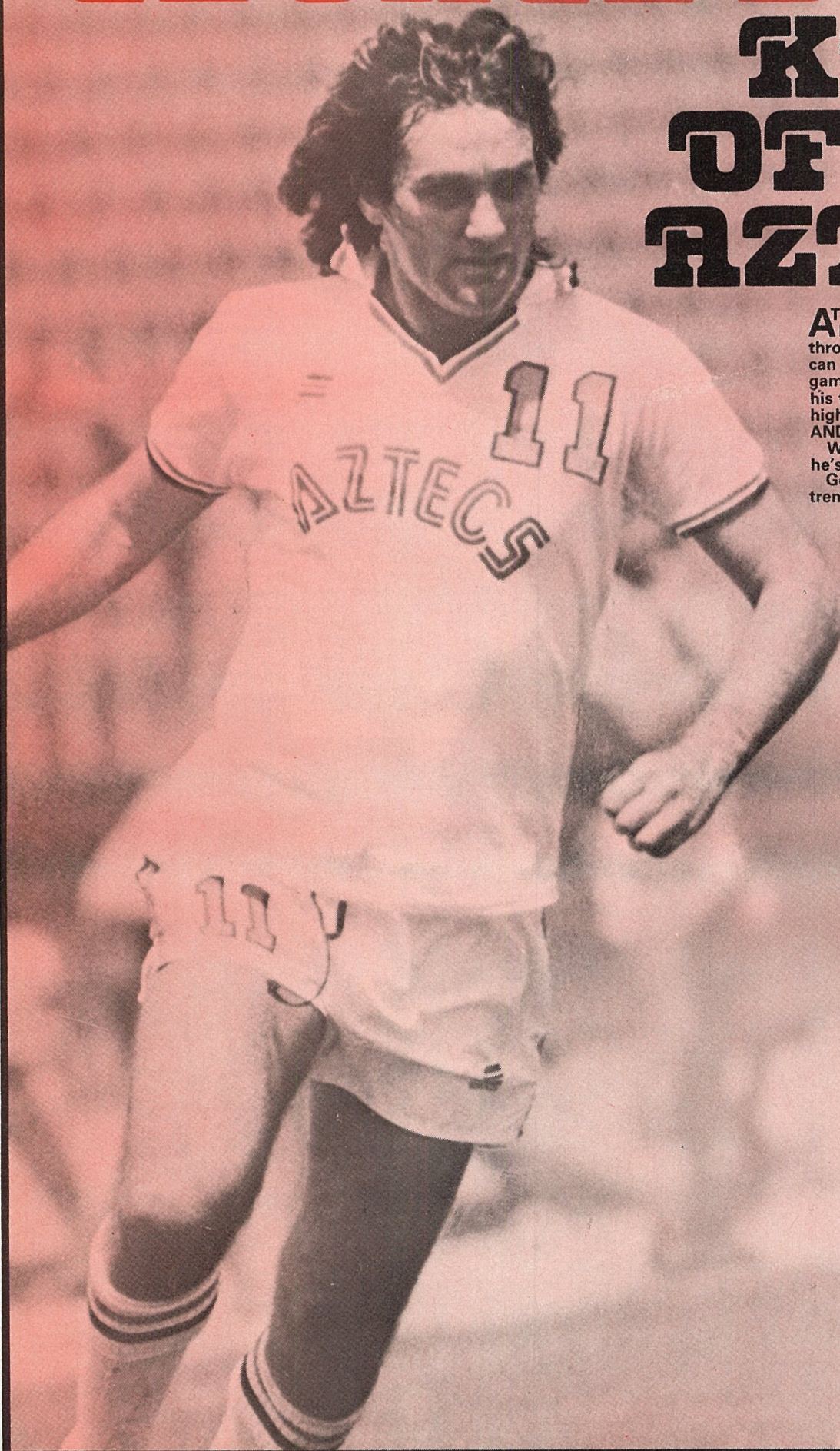
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GEORGE BEST

KING OF THE AZTECS



AT 31, George Best is a big star once again. English fans delighted in his magic throughout the 1976-77 season and American fans appreciate what he's doing for the game here. Best is in the top five scorers and his team, the Los Angeles Aztecs, enjoyed a highly successful season, winning games AND supporters on their travels.

What sort of lifestyle does he enjoy when he's on the other side of the Atlantic?

George Best does not live in Hollywood or trendy Beverly Hills like the majority of British pop stars, actors and actresses. On the contrary, he lives a good 25 miles away from the glitter of the Mercedes Benz crowd. Bestie lives on the beach.

Actually he lives in a beach community known as Hermosa Beach. It's a typical Southern California seaside rendezvous. A young people's paradise.

Just like every other American small town, it has its share of fast food operations and national chain stores. But Hermosa also has its folksy craft people and the free and easy spirit of the beach.

And unlike anywhere else, Hermosa Beach has a couple of pubs where transplanted Britishers congregate — Hard Times and Fat Face Fenner's Falloon.

Following a training session with the Aztecs at Hollywood Park (racetrack) Best often retires for a round of pinballs at Fat Face's. And more than one evening has been spent shooting pool and tossing darts at Hard Times.

After a magic match against the Cosmos in July, George Best could have easily hooked up with and carried on with the likes of Elton John and Sergio Mendes and other Hollywood-types in the crowd of over 33,000. But he preferred the dank and dingy atmosphere of his local, and hours after the match was still at Hard Times eating a plate of spaghetti with team-mate Steve David, a black man from Trinidad, while shooting a game of pool between fork-fulls. And all the while, he'd stop to talk to the soccer groupies, sign autographs and have a chat with just about anyone there who came up to him.

While officials of the Football League cringe at the thought of young people in Britain looking to Best as a model, American soccer people point to him as the kind of player this country wants to produce in great numbers.

His play has been quite unselfish, and thanks to his artistic pas-

Continued overleaf

GEORGE BEST

KING OF THE AZTECS

Continued from previous page

sing, his team-mate David is far and away the League's leading scorer. There has not been one single incident in the Press over here concerning his off-field "exploits", but there have been numerous accounts of his on-field brilliance.

Los Angeles is a crazy town. There are more ways to get in trouble there than you can imagine. And if George Best wasn't so keen on playing soccer, he'd have more than ample opportunity to go astray in the human menagerie they call a city.

But George Best is intent on continuing his career in England and America as long as he's capable of playing top quality football. Franz Beckenbauer recently said Best is a different player than he remembered from the 1960's, but he's still dangerous, exciting and quite skilled, according to "The Kaiser".

In short, George Best is still a superstar.

LIFE is certainly different in Los Angeles. Different and, in many ways, better. After training, George can soak up the Californian sun on the beach. But on match day, it's business as usual for the Aztecs. George and the other players hand out flowers and other gifts to the fans before games. Flower power? Not really... just the sort of friendly atmosphere some of our own grounds could do with.



KEVIN KEEGAN
Hamburger SV



SHOOT!

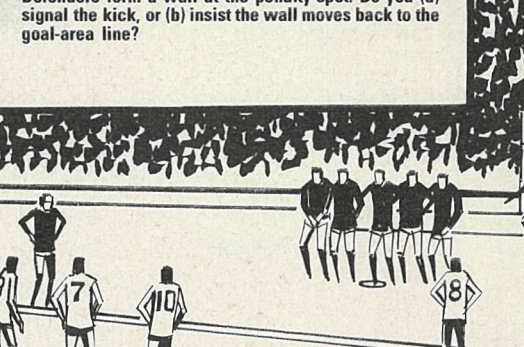
**Compiling
STAN L.
President
the Long
Referee**

1

When the captains arrive for the toss-up you find that your coin has been left in the dressing-room some distance from the pitch. Do you (a) delay the start until the coin has been obtained, (b) allocate ends to both teams or (c) use an alternative method?

3

3 A free-kick is awarded on the penalty-area arc. Defenders form a wall at the penalty-spot. Do you (a) signal the kick, or (b) insist the wall moves back to the goal-area line?



2

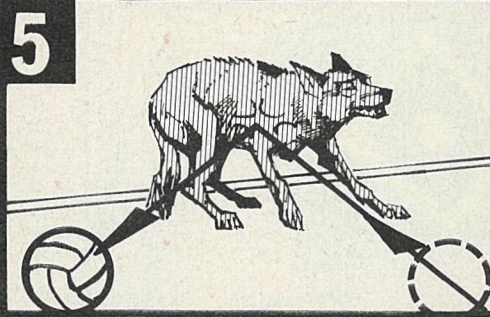
After catching the ball the goalkeeper places it on the ground and kicks it badly so it rolls only a few yards. He then runs six paces after the ball and kicks it again before it leaves the penalty-area. Do you (a) take no action, (b) stop play and drop the ball or (c) award an indirect free-kick?



ayer wears
six on his shirt
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(a) take
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which
number
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inside

4

5



ANSWERS

1. Although Law 8 requires the choice of ends to be decided by the toss of a coin the kick-off should not be delayed. Use an alternative (c) action (a). The ball is in play when caught, the keeper may play it before it leaves the area. 3. Signal the kick (a) because the penalty-spot is ten yards from the penalty-arc. 4. Take no action (Law 8d).

NOTTINGHAM Forest's players were waiting at the baggage claim of a Spanish airport when they learned they'd won their way back into the First Division.

Explained midfielder man John McGovern: "After finishing our programme we went off on holiday on the day Bolton were playing their last match at home to Wolves. They had to win to pip us.

"The pilot got through to England and told us Bolton were losing 1-0 at half-time but the signal grew weaker as we got further from home and we didn't find out the final score.

"As soon as we landed, one of the directors rushed to the phone and found out the score. It was a bit like when we won the First Division title at Derby — we were on holiday in Spain then."

McGovern, of course, came up from Division Two with Derby and manager Brian Clough, who he

also served at Leeds.

He sees a lot of similarities in the Derby team that climbed out of the Second Division and Clough's current Forest side.

"I think we're very similar in style and now I'm hoping we can prove as successful in Division One.

"The only personal difference is that I was one of the youngest players in the Derby side when we came up and now, at 28, I'm one of the more experienced."

McGovern found himself in an impossible situation at Leeds after the sacking of Clough, and it was respect for the manager's qualities that persuaded him to drop a Division and join Forest.

"Knowing what he was like, I knew he wouldn't be happy just to let things roll on as they were. He always wants to be the best and I believed we'd get promotion from the moment I joined.

"I had to wait a year longer than I thought but it's lovely to be back."

McGovern is full of praise for his colleagues in the Forest team, and particularly winger John Robertson.

"John was absolutely superb all



'NEW FOREST ARE LIKE OLD DERBY'

says midfielder star John McGovern



BRIAN CLOUGH . . .
has taken Forest back to Division One.

the way through. I think he had one game in which he was 95 per cent good and in the rest he was 100 per cent.

"Terry Curran, our other winger, was injured for most of the season. If he comes in to play in the same side as John, it will be really exciting. We'll be like Manchester United, playing with two orthodox wingers.

"Tony Woodcock did a great job last season, too. He came in late in the term and I think he averaged almost a goal a game. And right-back Viv Anderson improved enormously."

McGovern is honest enough to admit that he thought his side had blown their promotion chance after losing at home to Cardiff, their fifth from last game.

"I thought that was it but we picked ourselves up and finishing our matches before Bolton was a great advantage. It put them under pressure and looking at their remaining games, I didn't think they would do it."

McGovern also had doubts during a sticky Forest spell in mid-season.

"It was a consistency problem, really. If one or two players drop around 10-15 per cent in performance, you can carry them but it happened to about three or four players at once.

"All you can do is to keep working at it and luckily, in our case, we managed to right ourselves just in time."

McGovern played for much of last term as a sweeper but was given back his more familiar midfield role for the final ten games or so.

With Kenny Burns in a back-four position this term, it looks as though McGovern's future will stay in mid-field.

"I don't really mind where I play as long as I'm in the side. What I have learned is that it's much harder graft in midfield. I was whacked after my first few games there.

"You soon adjust though. Now I keep telling the guys at the back how lucky they are."

'I enjoy playing for Tranmere reserves'

says former Everton and England 'keeper GORDON WEST

ONE OF the finest representatives of our football today is a man who was once the top 'keeper in the country and is now happy to turn out for the reserve team of a Third Division club.

The club is Tranmere. The player, Gordon West.

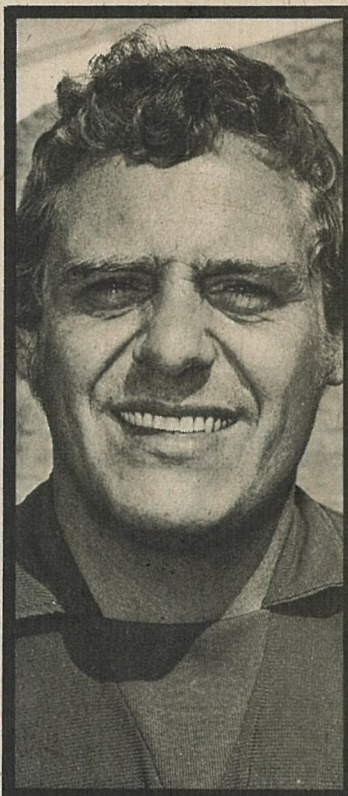
Behind him is an eventful career. Three years with Blackpool, over 14 years with Everton and two years in the comparative shadows with Tranmere.

At Everton he logged up 335 League appearances and took home two League Championship medals, two F.A. Cup Final medals (one winner, one loser) and three England caps.

"Yet," he says, "I have enjoyed the last couple of years as much as any time in my life! Tranmere is a very, very happy club... it really is."

It takes a lot of grit to reach the top in our game and Gordon's record speaks for him. Judge for yourself what extra calibre is needed to have his approach to his change of fortune and matches far removed from the blaze of First Division trophy winning excitement which he once knew so well. He spoke candidly to SHOOT about the last couple of years.

"I retired from Everton when I was only 32. I thought to myself 'I've had a good run... it's time to



pack up.' I could have moved to different parts of the country. Either down South or into Yorkshire but I've been here all my adult life and I didn't want to move.

"But I was only out of the game about three or four months and found I was putting on so much weight I felt unhealthy. Then I got the chance to go to Tranmere.

"It all happened when manager Johnny King was talking to Brian Labone and said he was short of a 'keeper. Brian said 'what about Westy?' Johnny rang me up, 'I went on a month's trial, and have since signed a full contract.

"I had to lose three stone — believe me it nearly killed me! Johnny King really worked hard on me, but I tell you what, I felt a different man.

"Dickie Johnson is the first team 'keeper at Tranmere but I didn't mind, it was just nice to get back into the game, to get involved with the players again... I was quite happy with the kids.

"Last year Johnson was injured and I got a chance to have a go in the first team and had a run of eleven games. Then I got injured which allowed Johnson to return. You never know what's going to happen in football. But it proved I can still do it... oh yes, I'm sure of that.

"Nevertheless I really enjoy going out on a Saturday with the reserves — a gang of kids — just to help them out gives me a lot of pleasure. I'm a 34-year-old appearing with 18 and 19-year-olds — some only 16 — helping them, talking to them, telling them where they've gone wrong. They listen to me and their respect is reward enough."

'Real Englishman'

SHOOT asked Gordon if he might go to America: "No chance whatsoever. I've no interest in going away. I am a real Englishman — I love my home and my pipe... that'll do for me in life. I've done almost everything in football. I suspect most people going to America are looking for something they have never had. I could have gone there a year ago but turned it down."

Manager Johnny King summed up Gordon's display last season: "When he got into the side the results didn't match his performances... at times he looked unbeatable, for instance in the League matches at Crystal Palace, and at Brighton some of his saves bordered on the super-human." That praise brings back memories. It is as if Gordon had never been away.

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Birmingham City's £140,000 signing TONY TOWERS

'Left Sunderland to play for England'

TONY TOWERS is determined to win back his England place following his £140,000 move to Birmingham City.

Says 25-year-old Towers: "My two ambitions at the moment are to do well for Birmingham and to get back into international football."

"It was mainly because of England I wanted to leave Sunderland. I didn't think it would improve my chances if I was playing in the Second Division so I made a deal with Jimmy Adamson that I would only stay on if we avoided relegation."

As it was, the destiny of Towers hung on the final game of the season at Everton. A 2-0 defeat there meant the drop for the North-East club — and a change of scene for the midfield star.

Sunderland, who bought him from Manchester City for £130,000, still tried to win him round with a four-year contract. But he couldn't be swayed once he learned of Birmingham's interest.

"If Sunderland had stayed up, I probably would have signed on again because I was very happy there. I had no complaints from either the playing side or the place itself."

Towers could be the man to inspire Brum to a successful season this term after so many disappointing ones in the First Division.

So often, they've looked like a team capable of challenging for the top honours, only to drop out when the going has got tough.

Towers, who will play in the centre of the midfield as usual, will certainly give a lot of experience to the side. He played over 100 League matches in the colours of both City and Sunderland.

His three England appearances also makes him a player with a lot to offer both his new club and the First Division.

Towers lost his England place last year when he was forced out

term, and the least he expects is to end up with a place in Europe.

"We've got a very young side, which is a good sign, and there's no shortage of talent in the first team squad."

"The lads have told me they could easily have finished in Europe last term if it wasn't for giving away a lot of silly goals. We'll try and put a stop to that this time."

Towers hopes to move down to Birmingham as soon as he finds a house. Until then, he'll continue to go back to Sunderland most weekends to see his wife and two children.

He's been lucky so far to play at two clubs where the reputation of the fans is almost as famous as the teams.

Now he's landed in another hotbed of soccer in the Midlands, where the competition is likely to be even more fierce now Wolves and Forest have swelled their number in the First Division.

"We'll have 14 derby matches this season, which is fantastic. I always like the atmosphere of local clashes."

"But the one I'm looking forward to more than any other is the one against Aston Villa."

"Everyone has been telling me that is really the derby to end all derby games."

The first of an occasional series featuring the men-in-the-middle, the officials who contribute so much to our game



FOCUS ON

FOOTBALL LEAGUE REFEREE...

Kevin McNally

FULL NAME: Kevin McNally
BIRTHPLACE: Ellesmere Port, Cheshire

BIRTHDATE: 5th May, 1941

HEIGHT: 5ft 5ins

WEIGHT: 9st 12lb

PREVIOUS REFEREEING

EXPERIENCE: Cheshire County

MARRIED: Yes, to Christine

CHILDREN: Suzanne age 5, Ian age

4, Nicola age 9 months

CAR: Jag XJ6 Reg. No. KM 18

FAVOURITE REFEREE: Mev.

Griffiths, S. Wales

MOST DIFFICULT GAME:

Orient/Aston Villa. May, 1974,

when Orient needed one point to

gain promotion to Division One

MOST MEMORABLE MATCH: F.A.

Cup Semi-Final Newcastle v

Burnley in 1974

BIGGEST THRILL: Gaining

promotion to the Football League

Referees Full panel, 1970

BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT:

Putting games off through bad

conditions

BEST COUNTRY VISITED: Israel

FAVOURITE FOOD: Fillet steak

MISCELLANEOUS LIKES: All

sports

MISCELLANEOUS DISLIKES:

People knocking the game of

football

FAVOURITE T.V. SHOWS: Mike

Yarwood, and The Brothers

FAVOURITE SINGER: Johnny

Mathis

FAVOURITE ACTOR: Sean

Connery

BEST FRIEND: Robby Pollard.

Plays for Woking F.C.

BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON

CAREER: Bill Weight, local League

Secretary

BIGGEST DRAG IN SOCCER: Not

being able to referee through

injury

INTERNATIONAL HONOURS:

European Cup game in Malta

PERSONAL AMBITION: To referee

the Cup Final and to be promoted

to the F.I.F.A. list

PROFESSIONAL AMBITION: To

own more than one newsagent's

shop

IF YOU WEREN'T A REFEREE

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE? A

referee's coach

WHICH PERSON IN THE WORLD

WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO

MEET? James Hunt, World Motor

Racing Champion

Kevin McNally



with a thigh injury and when he recovered, he wasn't able to fight his way back into the squad.

"I don't think my form suffered at all. I was out two months through that injury but I was happy with the way things went when I got back."

"The side were really playing well then, anyway, so it was easy to fit in. It was really disappointing Sunderland got relegated after such a great finish to the season."

Towers is excited about the prospects at St. Andrews this

Continuing the career of England's most controversial goalscorer

SEASON 1970-71 began with a buzz of excitement that ran through the Bedfordshire town of Luton.

Promoted from the Third Division the previous season, Luton, under the shrewd management of Alec Stock, were very much the dark horses. But one increasingly valuable and known asset in their ranks was Malcolm Macdonald, a

"I was bitterly disappointed for Alec Stock and the people of Luton who were always so kind to me during my two happy years there."

If Macdonald was disappointed that Luton blew out before the end of the season he had plenty of reason to be happy on the personal front. His goal-tally for the season . . . 30!

By now the First Division clubs

The Malcolm Macdonald STORY

bold, brash and brave centre-forward with an insatiable lust for goals.

Before the beginning of the season Macdonald turned to the Press and said: "My target, as I told you guys last May, is 30 goals in this and every future season."

The journalists loved every minute of Macdonald's brashness and apparent youthful over-confidence. He gave them endless headlines. But the experts quietly smiled and predicted a sticky end for Luton's outspoken young striker.

Macdonald wiped away some of those smug smiles by scoring six

PART TWO

THE GEORDIES CROWN HIM SUPERMAC

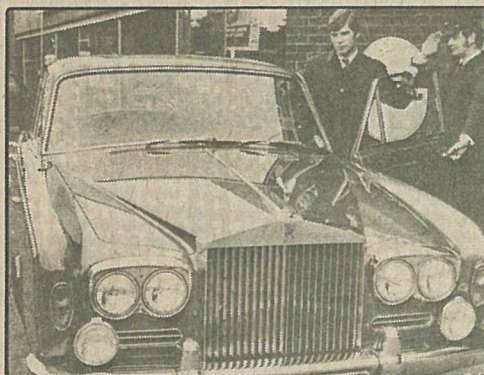
goals in Luton's first seven games in which they collected a promising eight points.

Two goals against Oxford and another pair against Orient were proof enough Macdonald meant business. On October 3rd he scored another two against Bristol City and seven days later smashed a hat-trick in a shock 5-1 win at Sheffield Wednesday.

The scouts began to pack Kenilworth Road, Macdonald, always ready to entertain a packed gallery, sent them away with glowing reports for their managers.

By Christmas he had scored 17 goals and Luton were inching into promotion contention. Luton's promotion hopes died over three matches, against Bristol City, Millwall and Leicester — the League leaders.

Macdonald remembers: "That was our big chance. We led 2-0 at Bristol only to lose 3-2, took a 4-0 thrashing at Millwall and despite taking a first-minute lead at home to Leicester, we went down 3-1.



LEFT . . . Supermac signs for Newcastle in style — Rolls-Royce an' all.

BELOW . . . Malcolm makes a great start to his League career with Newcastle against Liverpool by scoring a hat-trick on his home debut



were falling over one another to bring Macdonald to their team. The ever-shrewd Alec Stock, faced with Luton's financial problems weighed against holding on to the local idol, opted for common sense and survival. Macdonald was made available for transfer.

At the end of May, 1971, 21-year-old Macdonald signed for Newcastle United for a reported £180,000. Yet his career almost came to a shattering end before he had kicked a ball in the First Division!

He remembers: "Within hours of signing for Newcastle, I was driving home to Bedfordshire, my head full of dreams and excitement at the prospect of the coming season. Beside me was my 'second father', Harry Haslam, and we were chatting as my car cruised along at 55 mph.

"Suddenly there was a loud

LEFT . . . His deadly left foot in action against Crystal Palace in 1971/72.



LEFT . . . Playing for Luton at Millwall, April, 1971.
RIGHT . . . Malcolm's England debut against Wales in 1972.



explosion and my windscreen disintegrated. Harry got a piece of glass in his face and another flying fragment ripped off the side of my sunglasses! Without those glasses I might have been blinded. That is why I wear them every time I drive, winter or summer."

Newcastle made a far from exciting start to season 1971-72. Beaten 2-0 in their opening game at Crystal Palace, they held out for a 0-0 draw at Spurs. All eyes were on Macdonald . . . and after two goalless games, the critics once again wore cynical smiles.

"Imagine how I felt when I came out for our first home match to be greeted by 40,000 roaring Geordies. Just to add icing to the cake, Liverpool were the visitors.

"It was one hell of a game . . . and a dream home debut for me. I scored a hat-trick in a 3-2 win, finishing up with a penalty for the winner. Bill Shankly was heard to mutter 'One swallow does not make a summer', but even Shanks has beamed me a rare smile since that day."

So began the legend of "Supermac" as the Geordies nicknamed their new idol. He could do no wrong and was treated and greeted like a king in the football crazy North-East.

Once again 30 goals was his target, but he finished a fine season three goals short. Nevertheless, Macdonald breathed life and fire into a Newcastle team renowned for its string of world famous centre-forwards.

In 1972, Macdonald won the first of four England Under-23 caps and duly scored on his international debut, against Wales. Two more caps followed that season — against Scotland and East Germany, then came the dreamed of selection by Sir Alf Ramsey. Malcolm Macdonald was picked to play for England.

"I shall never forget that day,

May 20, 1972. We beat Wales 3-0 at Ninian Park. I did not score, but I was happy to go home to my wife Julie and re-live every moment.

"My second cap, against Northern Ireland at Wembley was an unhappy memory. Terry Neill scored the only goal in a shock 1-0 win for the Irish and I was replaced before the end by Martin Chivers.

"Then we went to Hampden Park and I sat on the bench as England took a 1-0 lead through my old pal Alan Ball. I later went on as substitute for Rodney Marsh, but that elusive first goal would not come."

The beginning of the 1972-73 season saw Macdonald bang on target in four of the first five games. But he was a marked man. Having played in all 42 League games in his first season at St James' Park, he made nonsense of the belief the physical punishment dished out by some of football's hardest men would curtail his scoring powers.

Hard though he played, Macdonald earned the respect of his fellow professionals by the way he got up and walked away from all explosive situations and crunching challenges.

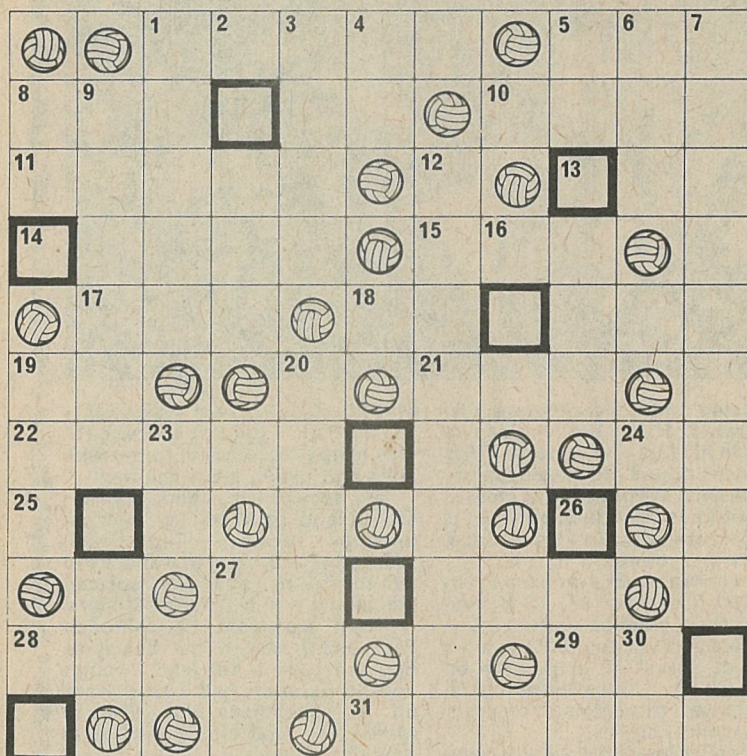
Another Under-23 cap, against Wales, rocketed him back to the forefront of international football. He smashed three goals to sink the Welsh and ensure Alf Ramsey kept him in mind. Sure enough, Macdonald came on as substitute against Russia, but he still could not break his full international scoring duck.

At the end of season 1972-73, "Supermac" was an established international and the most feared centre-forward in League football. Yet the best was still to come!

In part three, the magic and misery of four special trips to Wembley and the big break from Tyneside.

Go for the Double

After solving the clues in this specially compiled crossword, you can use the letters in the thick-edged squares to form the name of a Scotland and Everton player. Answers on page 46.



ACROSS:

- (1) --mm- N-I-on (Arsenal). Literary composition from the missing letters.
- (5) ---merston Park, Queen of the South.
- (8) Dai —, 'keeper for Everton and Wales.
- (10) Gigg —, home of Bury.
- (11) Not with others.
- (13) C-- stal Palac - from Selhurst Park.
- (14) Cly - - - - n -. Cooked from the missing letters of the Scottish club.
- (15) --- well, Barnsley's ground.
- (17) --- port County, The Ironsides.
- (18) Takes off one's clothes (maybe to get into the bath after the match).
- (19) Joe C-- rigan, Manchester City goalkeeper.
- (21) Jeff -emm-rma- of Port Vale.
- (22) Affair of the heart. Might it be connected with Love Street, St. Mirren!
- (24) St. -- draws, Birmingham City's ground.
- (25) Purchase — a new player, perhaps.
- (27) — Gemmill, Derby County midfielder.
- (28) Take five letters from Manchester for a "portion".
- (29) Moth - r - - ll from Fir Park.
- (31) Showed facial pleasure. Maybe at a humorous moment in the game.

DOWN:

- (1) - - - in H - ct - r (Derby). "Call up" from the missing letters.
- (2) Fibrous tissue uniting muscle to bone.
- (3) Jimmy —, former famous name with Spurs.
- (4) Don Sh - nk - of Q.P.R.
- (5) Derek —, of Wolves.
- (6) West Germ - - - , World Cup winners in 1974.
- (7) Team beaten by Sunderland (1-0) in the 1972/3 F.A. Cup Final. (5 & 6)
- (8) - um - - rton. Small flat fish from the missing letters.
- (9) Partick Thistle and Scotland goalkeeper. (4 & 5)
- (12) — United, The Merry Millers.
- (16) R-ce cou-s- Ground, Wrexham.
- (19) Stewart - ar - owcl - ugh (Newcastle). Reverse the missing letters for a globe.
- (20) M - - t - o - - (Scottish club). Sleep noise from the omissions.
- (23) Sammy - cllro - of Manchester United.
- (26) Part of the foot.
- (27) Jimmy - - - field, manager of Leeds Utd.
- (28) - - - ughend United are nicknamed The Shrimpers.
- (30) Ne - castle Unit - d from St James' Park.

I RETURNED from England's successful tour of South America in June looking forward to 1977/78 under Eddie McCreadie and Don Revie.

Yet within a few weeks the situation changed completely.

I had a call from the Chelsea chairman, Brian Mears, while I was on holiday in Majorca to tell me Eddie was leaving the club.

Then, Don Revie announced he was off to the Middle East. To say these departures shocked me would be an understatement.

I've been very close to Eddie since I came into the first team around three years ago.

He made me captain, a decision which may have been criticised, but it certainly did me a power of good.

I used to be a bit of an introvert, yet as skipper I had to "grow up" quickly. Eddie was marvellous in this respect and helped me a great deal.

He was a fine motivator and got the best out of players with his infectious personality.

Why did Eddie leave? To be honest I don't know and I don't really want to. As far as I'm concerned, that matter is between Eddie and the Chairman — nothing to do with me.

I'm delighted Ken Shellito has taken over. The players at the club wouldn't have wanted anyone else to have got the job.

Ken may be relatively unknown outside of Stamford Bridge, but all the lads at the club know him well.

He's been a loyal servant, over 20 years at Stamford Bridge I believe, and my memory of him dates back

to when I was 11½ when I first started to train with the club.

I've grown up with Ken. We went on a pre-season tour of Sweden recently and I think 12 of the players had been groomed by him.

He's a quiet person, yet knows what he wants — and gets it. It's a big job he's taken on, although with his own ideas slowly but surely being put into practice the signs are very encouraging.

From my point of view he has already had some effect. Last season I was playing just behind the front-runners.

Ken has moved me back to an orthodox midfield role and I feel I'm of most use here.

I don't like playing with my back to the opponents' goal, although I'll always do anything to help the side.

I haven't given the England scene too much thought in recent weeks. Chelsea's return to Division One has been my priority, as you can imagine.

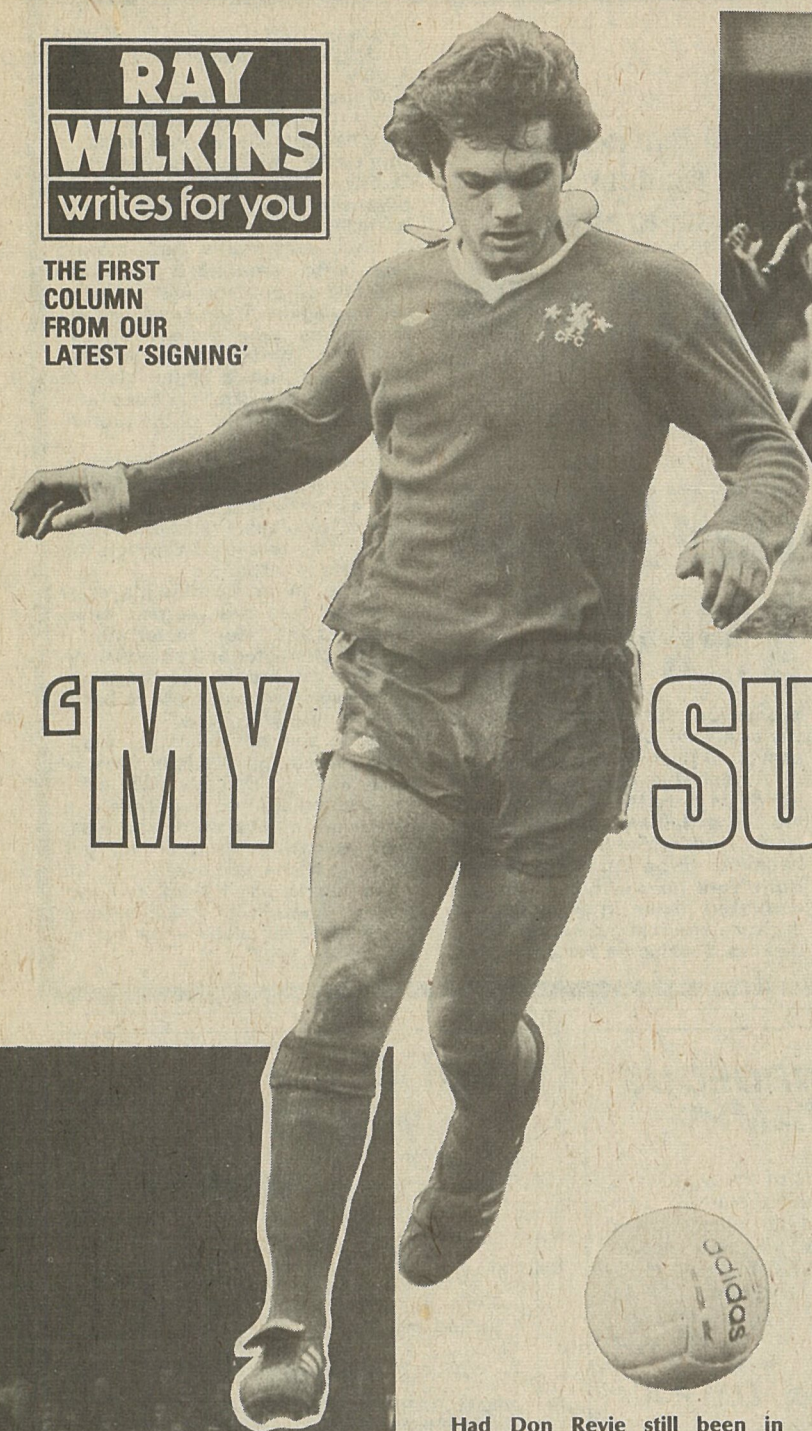


ABOVE ... "I was happy playing under Don Revie."



**RAY
WILKINS**
writes for you

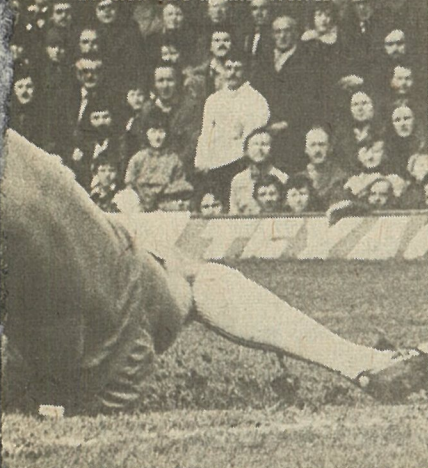
THE FIRST
COLUMN
FROM OUR
LATEST 'SIGNING'



ABOVE . . . "England did well in South America and could have won all three games, even this one in Brazil."

'MY SUMMER SHOCKS'

LEFT . . . "We know the First Division will be harder than the Second. Action here from our last game in Division Two against Wolves."



Had Don Revie still been in charge perhaps it would have been different and I could be planning for the friendly against Switzerland on September 7th.

This is my first experience of a national manager leaving and I don't know where it's going to leave me.

I was pleased with my progress under Don Revie and like to think I was doing the sort of job he wanted me to do.

But a new manager, especially at this level, usually wants different players so I'm certainly taking nothing for granted. I'm far from guaranteed a place against the Swiss.

I'm not going to join the anti-Revie brigade. I have no reason to criticise him. Players like a manager who will help them, and Mr. Revie looked after his players. He worked hard for us and I learned to respect him.

I can't say what effect his departure will have on England . . . we'll just have to wait and see.

Whatever the line-up against Switzerland, I'll be hoping England carry on with the good work started in South America.

The signs were encouraging, with the pattern and understanding gained against Brazil, Argentina and Uruguay.

Personally, I thought we could have won all three games, but to become the first England team to return from South America undefeated still gave us all great satisfaction.

Right now I'd put our chances of reaching the World Cup Finals at 50-50. Finland are a hard side to beat on your own ground as England found out at Wembley. Italy will have their work cut out when the Finns visit them and I'm by no means as pessimistic as some folk.

Back to Chelsea . . . and I put this first article together a little early to give myself breathing space for the start of the season.

The mood at The Bridge has been one of thoughtful optimism. Nobody has been raving that we'll do this or that.

We've all been busy working at our game because we know Division One is going to be much harder than Division Two . . . which isn't exactly a piece of cake.

There are one or two pretty tough

nuts in the Second and we had to adapt our football accordingly.

In our first season down, we tended to let opponents put us off, but last term we added the necessary steel to our play and the results are there for everyone to see.

Naturally we began the new campaign wanting to win every game; realistically, I'll be happy if we finish in the top half of the table and make a good showing in the Cups.

I hope the small, unruly element of so-called fans don't let the club down. The majority of our supporters are fantastic and do the players the world of good.

But a tiny minority have spoiled it for the rest. What's the answer? I've no idea, and nobody seems to have come up with one that will work.

Good support is worth a goal start, as I've found from playing at Old Trafford and Anfield.

We have this type of following, especially at home. But I wish the thugs would stay away.

See you all again in a fortnight . . .

Ray Wilkins

AFTER too many drab seasons during which their soccer existence was threatened more than once, Darlington seem set for better times — and to their manager, Peter Madden, this means aiming for promotion to Division Three.

Taking his place two seasons ago in the Feethams' hot seat, a seat occupied in rapid succession by eight managers in recent years, the present Darlington boss avoided re-election for his team on goal average in 1976. Then last term he guided the club into a respectable middle-of-the-table position.

And this was heartening for a side, which, after finishing fifth in the table in 1970, had a very bleak time in the following years. In 1971, Darlington had to seek re-election, and also in 1974, when they ended in bottom place. And, in 1975, once again the club had to go cap in hand to the League for survival.

But under Madden, long-lost confidence has again started to flow throughout the club, and the talk now is all about finishing in the top four in the Fourth Division. And the Feethams' boss is fully convinced his side has all the class necessary for higher-grade soccer.

He says: "We play good football, which at its best is worthy of the Second and Third Divisions. This is not only my view — time and again last season, managers were telling me how much we had impressed them. Though if we had lost, this sort of praise would



Darlington manager Peter Madden pledges his team to attack:

'We're going for TWO POINTS A MATCH'

annoy me a great deal.

"What we lacked was a touch of hardness to go along with our football ability. If we are sterner in our attitude on the field we can improve on past performances.

"Of course, I'm well aware that every manager has high hopes for his team, especially early in the season — and there has to be more than words offered if Darlington are to be serious challengers for

promotion. But I believe that with the new men we have signed we'll prove we possess the ability.

"Among the players who have joined us since the end of last term are Lloyd Maitland and Neil Hague from Huddersfield. And I was happy to bring Barry Lyons here from York before then — he is a dedicated player in every respect and a key-man in our set-up. Then, making a welcome return to Dar-

lington, from Carlisle, is Martin Burleigh, a goalkeeper I rate very highly."

Along with his optimism, Peter has a realistic streak. He has sized up the opposition, and reckons that Darlington face big barriers to Division Three in such sides as Swansea, Doncaster, Watford and Barnsley.

"Swansea are a high-scoring team who came close to promotion last season and will be in the running again. Also, I must respect the teams who were relegated from the Third Division, because they come from a higher class of football. A side like York, for example, can't be left out of the promotion reckoning.

"In addition to the opposition, there is always the possibility of injuries to mar our plans. But I've a pool of 16 players, and am counting on this to see us through the next few months.

"If I do go out for new players, I must go into the bargain basement, for the free-transfer men. I look for character and ability, players who can mould into the team, and I have full confidence in backing my own judgment."

About the possibility of long-term planning, Madden has a ready answer. He says: "My aims are immediate — two points a match are what I want, and we'll play attacking football to get them, at home and away.

"By doing so, I think we can achieve enough to finish among the leading six clubs — or better still, at the top."

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A CHOICE OF FLAG

WHEN Ally MacLeod took over as Scotland's international team manager, he named as his captain a man whose dream it had always been to play for England — Bruce Rioch.

The Everton midfielder player was born in Aldershot, but has a Scottish father. Therefore, like a number of other players, Rioch had the choice of playing for his country of origin — or the land of his father.

In his early days Rioch's ambition was to play for England. But now he is following the Tartan cause with fervour.

"From the days when I was kicking a ball around as a five-year-old I only wanted to play for England," says Rioch. "That didn't materialise. Now I am very happy as part of the Scottish set-up."

Rioch started his professional career with Luton Town. As a 17-year-old he was being hailed as the natural successor to Bobby Charlton in the England side.

Rioch was flattered. But a succession of injuries cost him the chance of an Under-23 cap.

Tommy Docherty took Rioch to Aston Villa for £100,000 in 1969. He later offered him the chance of international football when he was manager of the Scottish national side.

Rioch turned Docherty down. He still had a burning ambition to play for England.

In 1974 he moved to Derby County for £200,000. He said then: "Now I have the chance to turn in the sort of consistent performances that will impress Don Revie." It was to be Rioch's first taste of First Division soccer.

Despite scoring regularly and helping Derby to a Championship success, Rioch was still overlooked by Don Revie. So in 1975 he

decided it was time to start an international career with Scotland.

Rioch's decision delighted his family, especially his father. He made his debut against Portugal in a 1-0 win at Hampden Park on May 13th, 1975.

"I was pleased with the way things went," says Bruce. "At the end of the match I remember feeling very happy."

"I believed I had settled in well with the rest of the Scottish lads."

Bob Wilson, the Arsenal goalkeeper, also had a choice of countries. Wilson, born in Chesterfield, has Scottish parents.

At 15-years-old Wilson was on Manchester United's books as a schoolboy. During that time he played in the same England schoolboy side as Nobby Stiles, now manager of Preston North End, and Bobby Tambling, formerly of Chelsea.

"My father insisted I finish my education," says Wilson. "That meant leaving United and going back to school."

"I always thought I had no choice but to play for England,

although I dearly wanted to represent Scotland."

"That obsession started when I was eight. I remember my Aunt and Uncle coming over to Sheffield one Christmas and giving me a dark blue goalkeeper's jersey."

"They made it clear that this was Scotland's colours and they hoped I would one day wear them."

Wilson did, playing twice for Scotland in 1971. He made his debut against Portugal at Hampden Park.

Wilson recalls: "We won the game 2-1 with goals from Archie Gemmill and John O'Hare."

"I felt nervous, but incredibly proud that night."

Wilson played once more for Scotland, against Holland in Amsterdam. Unfortunately the Dutch won 2-1.

Terry Mancini, then of Queens Park Rangers, played for the Republic of Ireland after making a chance remark to club colleague Don Givens, that his father was Irish, born in Kimmage, Dublin.

Givens, always an admirer of Mancini's style, immediately

grasped the significance of the statement and asked Terry if he would like to play for Eire.

Givens informed team manager Johnny Giles of Mancini's availability.

"When I found I qualified I nearly cried," says Mancini. "I gave up drinking lager and took to Guinness!"

So the likeable Cockney started his international career at 29, against Poland in 1973. He went on to win five caps.

Trevor Ross, Arsenal's highly-rated midfielder starlet, made his choice earlier this year.

Although born in Manchester, he decided his international career lay with Scotland, after being overlooked on numerous occasions by former England manager, Don Revie.

Ross explains his decision: "When Bobby Campbell was coach with Arsenal he phoned Revie and asked him to go along to our League match with Leeds at Elland Road to watch me play."

"Revie sent a representative and was pleased with my performance in front of him, but a couple of months later I read that he denied ever having me watched."

"I knew it was not true, so I turned to Scotland, my father's home country."

Ross made his debut in the Under-21 match against Wales in February. "My father was over the moon," he says. "When I joined the squad I didn't think about how Scottish I was. I had a job to do and it had to be done."

Since his debut he has not been in a Scottish squad, but time is on his side.

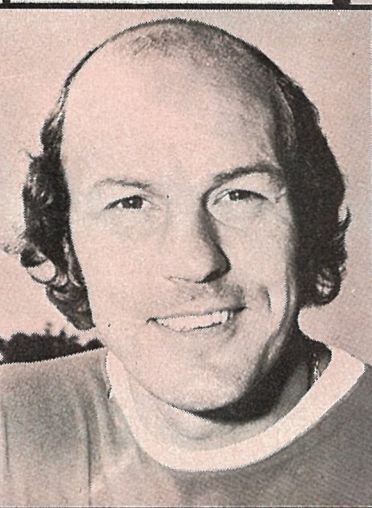
Ross has the ability to force himself back into the reckoning, and become an important part of the full national team.



BRUCE RIOCH



BOB WILSON



TERRY MANCINI



TREVOR ROSS

SCOTLAND



BACK ROW: Kenny Dalglish (Liverpool), Tom Forsyth (Rangers), Alan Rough (Partick Thistle), Willie Donachie (Manchester City), Bruce Rioch (Everton), Martin Buchan (Manchester United).

FRONT ROW: Don Masson (Q.P.R.), Asa Hartford (Manchester City), Willie Johnston (W.B.A.), Danny McGrain (Celtic), Archie Gemmill (Derby County).



SHOOT!



Kenny stretches for the ball during the Charity Shield, closely marked by Martin Buchan and Jimmy Nicholl.

'ALREADY I'M PART OF THE ANFIELD FAMILY'

says £440,000 signing Kenny Dalglish

I'VE BEEN a Liverpool player for less than a month, but already I feel one of the Anfield family.

Manager Bob Paisley told me when I signed that the atmosphere at Liverpool was first-class, from the tea-ladies to the board of directors.

The boss is right. I felt at home right away. Everyone went out of the way to make me settle down quickly and I can't thank the fans enough for the part they've played.

I'd never played at Liverpool before my transfer. Of course, I knew all about The Kop. Who doesn't?

I'd seen — or rather, heard — them enough times on television to know what a great bunch of supporters they are.

I could hardly have wished for a more exciting debut than the Charity Shield against Manchester United at Wembley.

The Liverpool supporters may not have realised it, but without them I'd have been a bag of nerves.

It's strange because I very rarely suffer from butterflies in my stomach. Yet as our coach got near Wembley, I felt the tension creeping in.

I've played in quite a few Cup Finals and European ties without

any problems. The Charity Shield was different, though.

When I went out on to the Wembley pitch before getting changed, I realised this was a very special occasion for me.

I'd played on the same ground at the end of last season when I scored what proved to be the decisive goal in Scotland's 2-1 victory over England in the British Championship.

All that was in the past, however. The Liverpool fans were anxious to see their new record signing — and he was just a little bit nervous!

I came out of the tunnel alongside my former Celtic team-mate Lou Macari, who's doing so well for Manchester United.

Don't ask me what we talked about... it's all a blur now.

As I stepped on to the pitch, the Liverpool followers gave me the sort of welcome I couldn't even have dreamed about.

They chanted my name and this made me more relaxed immediately. The part they played in my debut cannot be minimised.

I enjoyed the Charity Shield. It was a satisfying game from my point of view as I seemed to fit in with Liverpool's style straight away.

To be honest, if you can't play in this superb Liverpool team... then you can't play at all.

They're such a brilliant bunch of lads, both individually and collectively that my task is made much easier.

My lasting memory of my debut is the Liverpool scarf a fan draped around my neck as I went up to receive my medal.

It may not sound much, but that scarf will have a pride of place in our new home on Merseyside. I have many trophies already, but the scarf will always hold a special memory for me... a memento from The Kop of my first match for The Reds.

Why did I leave Celtic? It wasn't so much I was unhappy — far from it. I just had a burning ambition to move on... to prove myself in England.

All the while I secretly hoped Liverpool would be interested in me. I've long admired the way they play and I am confident I can do a good job for Bob Paisley. More important — he thinks so.

I came into the Celtic set-up just after they'd won the European Cup in 1967. I remember the enthusiasm that victory generated in Glasgow and I'm in the same position now with Liverpool.

I'm not bothered by the size of my fee. It seems to worry a lot of people, but not me.

I didn't put the price on my head. All I want to do is to play my best for Liverpool and help them to stay at the top.

Yes, these are exciting days for me, although I have one regret. My transfer has cost me a place in the SHOOT line-up but I understand the position.

Ray Clemence holds the "Liverpool position" for SHOOT, so I suppose you could say I'm on the subs' bench!

However, I'll be back from time to time to keep in touch.

I'm happy to be handing over my Tartan Talk page to Danny McGrain, who has also succeeded me as Celtic's skipper.

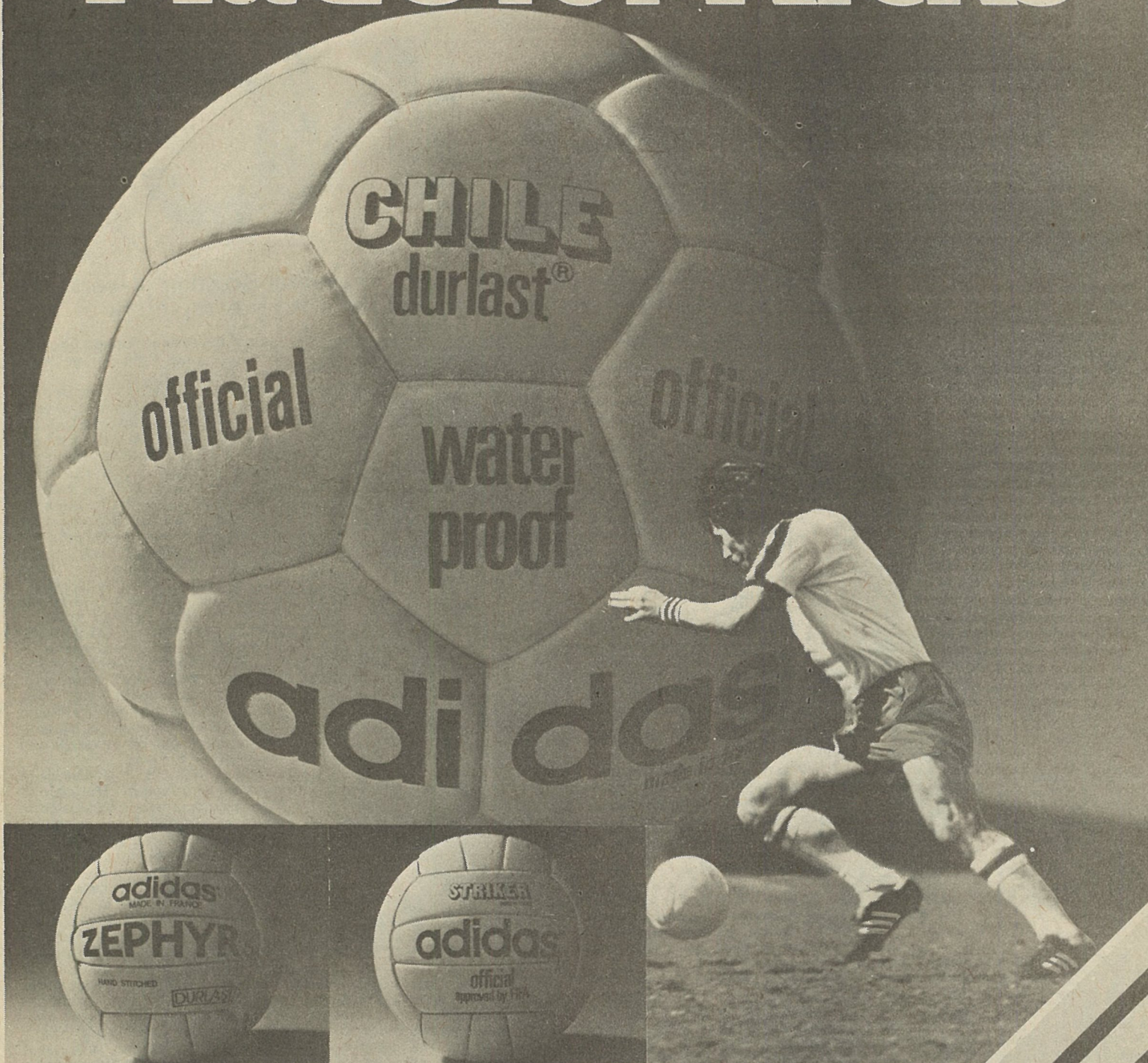
Regular readers will know how much I rate Danny, easily the best full-back in Europe and probably the world.

I'm looking forward to reading his columns to keep in touch with the Celtic scene.

In the meantime, I'd like to thank all the readers who have written to me and hope you enjoyed reading my page as much as I enjoyed putting it together.

As I've said, I hope to be back from time to time in SHOOT.

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The players CRUNCH

THIS will be the season of truth for several Scottish players. The crunch has arrived for them and there is no escaping it.

"Then, of course, he kept on scoring all those goals and people began to sit up and take notice. He became the top dangerman whenever anyone was playing Motherwell and he lost his freedom."

"We watched how he played, which side he favoured, which was his strongest foot and so on. We soon knew almost as much about his ability as he did himself! That's the price of fame, I suppose."

Pettigrew could have had better preparation for the new season. He had an operation on his nose during the close term and that forced him to miss some of the early training schedules. Then came the bungling trip to West Germany where he was likely to sign for newly-promoted West German side St. Pauli.

The West Germans were desperate to combat local rivals Hamburg's £500,000 attraction Kevin Keegan and they were willing to spend over £200,000 in bringing Pettigrew from Scotland.

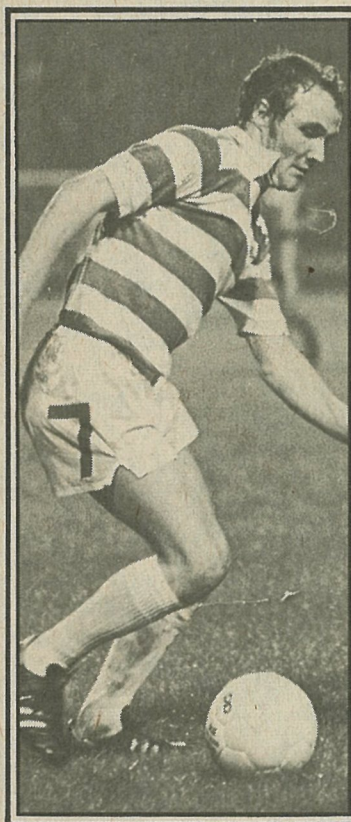
Everything looked set, the deal was almost completed when it fell through and Pettigrew returned home saying "certain conditions in the contract couldn't be agreed."

Now the international leader will have to get down to the business on hand. A lot of critics are still scornful about his talents. They see him as a 'one-season wonder' and obviously Pettigrew isn't happy with that.

The answer lies with the player himself. If he recaptures that deadly touch of two seasons ago then the arguments will be over. And he will have won...

One admirer of Pettigrew's goal-snatching talent is former international goalkeeper THOMSON ALLAN, who once had four goals hit past him by the Motherwell attacker.

This season, too, will be crucial for Allan, who lost his first team place at Dundee last year to veteran Ally Donaldson. If any player in the game knows about the ups and downs of soccer it must be the



likeable number one.

He first came upon the scene as a teenager with Hibs and was tipped for Under-23 honours. Things, though, suddenly and dramatically went wrong for the 'keeper. He lost his first team place at Easter Road, struggled in the reserves and was eventually thrown on the soccer scrapheap with a free transfer.

There wasn't a rush for his signature. Then Dundee, on tour of Belgium, decided they needed cover for Mike Hewitt and took Allan with them. He impressed the then manager, John Prentice, and he signed on a permanent basis when the squad returned to Scotland.

Allan fought his way into the first team, made his international debut four seasons ago against West Germany and was rated as one of the best 'keepers in the

game. Everything looked good for him... and then things went wrong again.

He lost confidence as Dundee struggled to find any sort of form and was dropped. Now he is determined to show he can fight back again. He says: "I have just got to do my very best, haven't I? I have got to show I still have what it takes to be a success in soccer."

"Reserve football is no good to me at this stage in my career. I have either got to get back into the first team or get a move... it's as simple as that. To achieve either I have to get back to top form and that's just what I aim to do."

Allan, in fact, almost got the move he wanted recently when it looked as though he was going to sign for Motherwell with their former international star Ally Hunter joining the Dens Park club in a straight swap deal. Negotiations, however, broke down and the deal fell through.

WILLIE MILLER, the Aberdeen captain, was tagged 'The second Martin Buchan' when he slotted in neatly to Martin's former position at Pittodrie when his predecessor moved to Manchester United.

Miller won the admiration of many critics with his mature and composed play in the heart of the defence and he made his international debut against Rumania in a European Championship match in Bucharest three seasons ago. Naturally transfer speculation started and at one point it appeared every First Division club in England were looking at him!

Last season, though, was not a happy one for Miller although he still managed to captain Aberdeen to their memorable League Cup triumph over Celtic. He started well, looked as commanding as ever, but when the pressure started to tell at the end of the programme he wasn't as convincing.

Two games, in particular, spring to mind. In a Premier Division game against Rangers at Ibrox, The Dons were playing out time with the score standing at 0-0. There was just under a minute to go when Miller passed the ball out to left-back Chic McLelland.

He stopped it and passed it back to his skipper. Miller was far too

Rangers' Derek Parlane (above) nearly moved to Birmingham during the close season. All Celtic fans will be hoping Johnny Doyle (right) finds his true form this season.

IT IS the season where they MUST prove their ability, they must remove any doubts the critics may have about their capabilities. These players are firmly in the public focus and they must realise how costly failure will be.

One man who is eager to show he hasn't lost any of the penalty box killer touch that made him a merchant of menace is Motherwell's WILLIE PETTIGREW. The Fir Park striker didn't really hit the heights last season although he still scored his fair share of the goals for his club.

Tighter marking made it tougher for Pettigrew to shine and he knows it will be the same this term. One defender puts it this way: "Two seasons ago Willie was relatively unknown and there weren't any special arrangements made to snuff him out of the game."

who face their SEASON

casual as he went for the simple pass. He took his eye off the ball, a cardinal error, failed to intercept it and Derek Johnstone pounced on the gift.

Johnstone sprinted into the penalty-area and Miller dragged him down from behind. No doubt about it... a penalty! And Alex Miller hammered his effort into the net to give Rangers two points.

Not long after that Aberdeen were playing Dundee in the Scottish Cup at Pittodrie. The first game had ended in a goalless draw at Dens Park and The Dons were favourites to go through.

In a similar situation Miller accepted a goal-kick from his 'keeper Bobby Clark. Again he was far too casual as he hit it back to Clark and to everyone's astonishment Dundee raider Bobby Hutchinson nipped in to intercept the pass and stroke in what proved to be a sensational winning goal.

That must have been an action replay Miller didn't want to see. And, just to make matters worse, in between those two glaring clangers Miller asked for a transfer! Any interested party must have been frightened off by those blunders.

There can be no doubting Miller's overall ability, though. He proved his consistency when he first came into the side, but he must guard against complacency.



Willie Miller (above, on ground) made two bad defensive errors for Aberdeen last term. Goalkeeper Thomson Allan (below), determined to regain his first team spot.

His reputation has been slightly tarnished because of those mistakes and it is now entirely up to the player to show everyone he can rise to the challenge and beat the crunch this season.

DEREK PARLANE is another international player who will have to restore his reputation this term. The Ibrox club turned down a £120,000 bid by Birmingham for him in the close season. In fact, general manager Willie Waddell described the bid as "peanuts".

There were, however, quite a lot of so-called 'experts' who thought Rangers should have accepted the cash while they had the opportunity. But if Rangers had been offered that amount even just three years ago EVERYONE would have laughed it off.

Something has happened to Parlane's form in those three years. Two years ago he lost his first team place at Ibrox to young Martin Henderson and struggled to get his position back.

Once back in the top side Parlane found it difficult to get on the goal mark with the regularity that had been associated with him in the past. Possibly it is something off the park which is unsettling him on it.

He has made no secret of his wish to leave Ibrox. Whenever his name was linked with St. Pauli he said: "I would welcome the chance to go abroad. It's exciting even to think about playing in West Germany."

Parlane, though, cannot go on living with the reputation he built in the past. He will have to find again that sparkling finishing touch that made him so lethal. His sharpness in the air and on the deck seems to have lost its edge.

will get a lot of opportunity to regain his goal touch.

Across Glasgow at Parkhead the pressure will be on JOHNNY DOYLE to do well and silence his critics. Doyle hasn't had the best of fortune since his £90,000 transfer from Ayr United two seasons ago.

He has tried everything he knows, but, for one reason or another, things aren't clicking consistently for him. On his day he can be devastating. He is one of the bravest players in the country and he will run all day for Celtic.

The trouble with Doyle could be the fact he is not only a Celtic player, but a Celtic FAN! He just cannot stand to see them lose and possibly he gets too involved when things are going against the team.

He deserves better luck. The fans will be willing him on during the season and he will get every encouragement. The crunch has arrived for him, but he will face it with the same sort of courage he shows every week on the park.

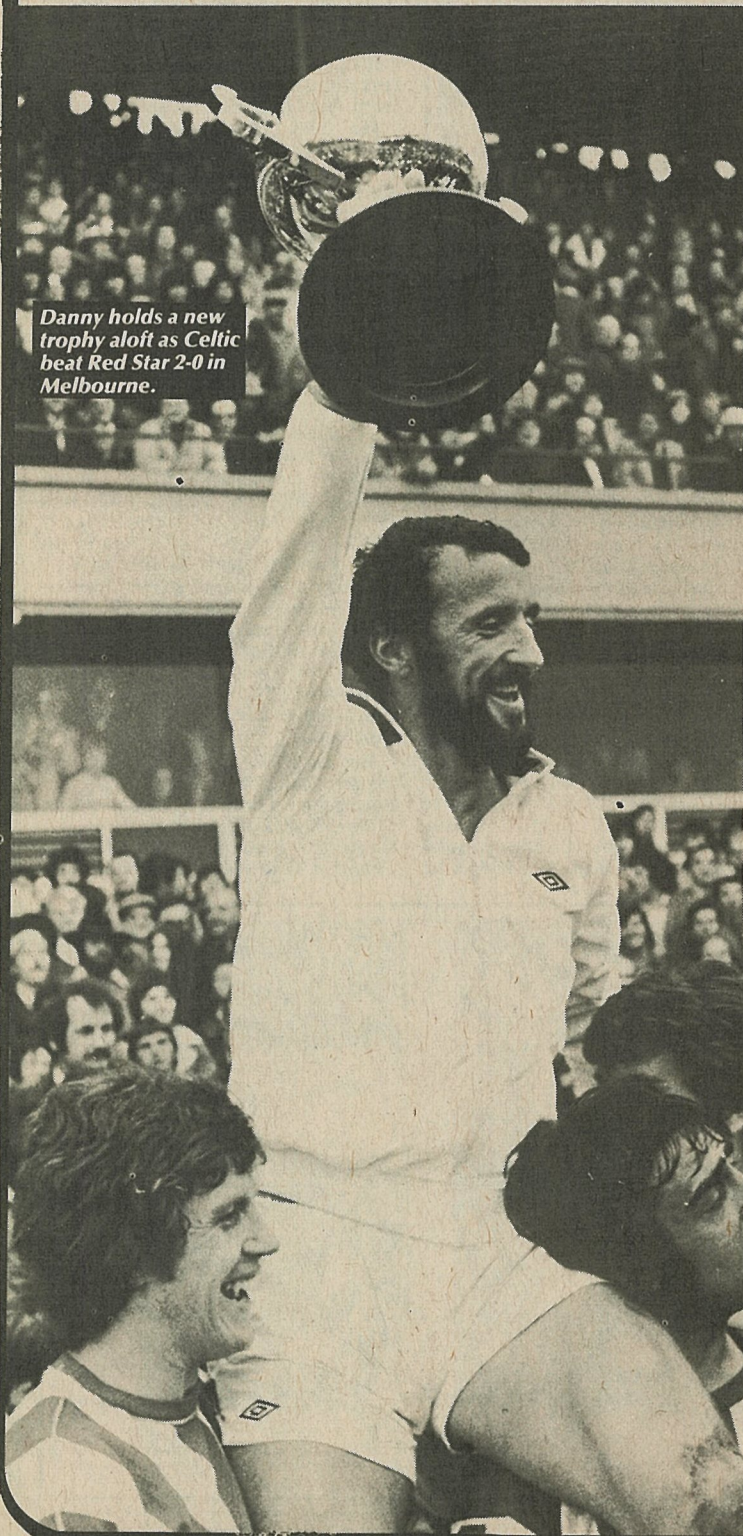
There are lots of other players who know this season will mean either success or failure on a personal level. Soccer is a hard sport. It has no place for sentiment or has-beens. Players have to prove themselves constantly in front of thousands.

However, it is all part of the fascination of the sport. For Willie Pettigrew, Thomson Allan, Willie Miller, Derek Parlane and Johnny Doyle the season is certain to be eventful. One way or another...



Motherwell striker Willie Pettigrew (above) will be aiming to get back on the goalscoring trail that made him a Scottish international.

'I WANT TO BE "EVER-PRESENT" AND SUCCESSFUL AGAIN'



Danny holds a new trophy aloft as Celtic beat Red Star 2-0 in Melbourne.

LET me start by saying what a pleasure it is to be asked to contribute a regular column for SHOOT.

Little did I realise when Kenny Dalglish left for Liverpool for £440,000, that not only would I take over as skipper of Celtic, but I would also take his place as a columnist!

Apart from being an avid reader of the magazine I was thrilled to win SHOOT'S Most Exciting Player for Scotland, a trophy that was presented to me by Celtic manager Jock Stein.

I won't forget that day. In the morning I received the trophy and later I and the Celtic team started on our long jet haul to Singapore and Australia for a pre-season tournament. Also on the trip were Arsenal and Red Star Belgrade.

Celtic started the new season well, by winning the trophy when we beat Red Star in the Final.

Many people ask me if I think

there is too much football played. My answer to that is NO. You don't notice it if you are successful and I had no grumbles on that score in 1976-77.

Last season, starting with a pre-season friendly with Inverness Thistle, I played in 71 matches for Celtic and Scotland.

I did not miss a game, and Kenny Dalglish would have also been "ever present" if he had not missed the League game at Kilmarnock in April.

Just think, 141 between the two of us in one season. Many players would be pleased to notch that number of games in a career!

In coming back from Scotland's tour of South America and leaving for Celtic's tour of the Far East, it gave me just four days' holiday with my family. We made the most of the short break at Stonehaven, in the North of Scotland.

The tour of South America gave me the chance to compare the difference between the two Scotland managers I had played under last season.

Both Willie Ormond and Ally MacLeod have their own ideas and methods. While Willie did it quietly, Ally is more flamboyant. But I have enjoyed playing under both of them.

The Scottish boys have been together a long time and I am confident we can qualify for the World Cup Finals next year.

EUROPEAN CUP

Celtic, as the League Champions and Scottish Cup-holders, are determined to hold on to both trophies this season. While of course, all eyes at Parkhead are on the magnificent trophy shining in the Liverpool boardroom — the European Cup.

Celtic meet Jeunesse Esch from Luxembourg in the First Round, but more about that clash in a future column.

We at Parkhead expect the main challenge to our Premier Division title to come from Rangers of course, but Dundee United are a side I expect to challenge hard again for the title this season.

There is a strong first-team squad at Celtic, despite the going of Kenny Dalglish, and we are confident of holding off any challenge.

While fans both in Scotland and South of the border will hear a lot more about two very promising Celtic starlets in Roy Aitken, who is 18, and 20-year-old Tommy Burns.

These two are really outstanding prospects. With players like these, the future of Celtic is in very good hands.

Till next time . . .

**NEXT WEEK'S TARTAN
TALK BY RANGERS'
SKIPPER JOHN GREIG**

**Tartan
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DANNY MCGRAIN

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"PREPARED" is the motto of Aston Villa and at a windswept Bodymoor Heath training ground, in mid-July, the Villa soccer machine began its build-up.

"We're not ready yet for next season," said manager Ron Saunders. "We're just beginning to get prepared. We've only just started training."

"We're entered for four competitions and our aim is to win each of them. Obviously that's impossible, but the impossible happens now and again, doesn't it?"

Ron chooses his words carefully. He's not one for idle chatter and it would be foolish to disagree with this likeable soccer mastermind who demands 110 per cent effort, endeavour and application, with the tag of "hard man" thrown in for good measure.

How does Saunders describe himself? "I'm a gentleman," he says. "I was born in Birkenhead — the posh side of Liverpool, but I've moved around a bit."

"I always wanted to become a soccer manager ever since I was 22," shrugs the holder of more Bell's Scotch Whisky awards than any other manager. "It's eleven in all — seven since I came to the Villa in 1974."

In his first full season Ron took the club to the League Cup and Second Division promotion double. But the resulting excursion into Europe proved disastrous. Belgian club Royal Antwerp thrashed them 5-1 on aggregate at the first time of asking.

How does he feel about the trip into Europe via the U.E.F.A. Cup this term? "We're delighted to be there," he said, "and we hope to make a bigger impression than we did last time. I think the lesson learned was the side simply wasn't good enough. We've now got eight changes to the team that we had then, we're a vastly superior outfit and we're better equipped to do well."

Are Villa really good enough to win the Championship? "Yes, we are, but we need to build up the squad. Most First Division clubs have a pool of around 18 to 20 players, whereas last season we only had 13."

Villa have also had some problems with injuries this season. August casualties included star striker Andy Gray (toe), England full-back John Gidman (groin) and Welsh defender Leighton Phillips (leg).

"That's why I've bought John Gregory and Allan Evans during the close season so that, if we do pick up any injuries, I've got more accomplished players than I have had to slot in as replacements."

"John Gregory can play double centre-half, full-back or midfield, and Allan Evans can play either

centre-forward or centre-half. So both these players, I hope, will prove invaluable in the years ahead. If injuries do strike, then either of them can play in any of those positions."

Last term Villa did get plagued with injuries but, under the guidance of Saunders and the unstinting efforts of the backroom boys, the youngsters rose to the occasion: Cowans, Young, Buttress, Hughes and Linton all made their debuts.

"That's been the usual thing

here in the past few seasons; we keep sticking the kids in," said Ron.

"What clubs do I see as a threat? All of them. There are 22 teams in the First Division and, as far as I'm concerned, 21 threats. We've got to finish up above those 21 to win the Championship."

Saunders is not a blackboard manager. "Players take the field and they play by instinct," he says. "They can either play or they can't play. It's up to the manager and coaches to make it simpler for



MAIN PICTURE . . . Brian Little wins the League Cup for Villa in April . . . the start of something big?

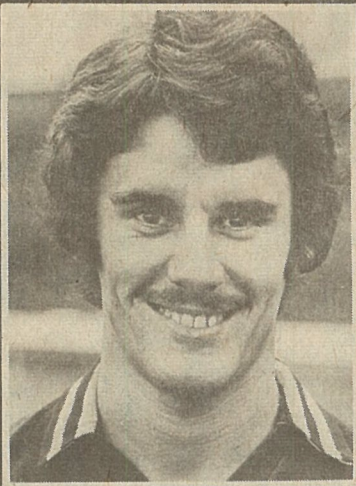
ABOVE . . . Young Gordon Cowans did well for Villa last season.

them and to encourage them to perform and to improve their technique and ability.

"What do I look for in a good player? Basically, someone who will do a job for me better than that person I have playing in that particular position."

In a little over two years Ron has produced a Villa team that not only wins, but plays crowd-pleasing soccer. "You've got to win," he emphasises, "and if you keep winning then the spectators will flock to watch you. If, as well as being successful, you can play attractive, open football, then so much the better."

"Cheats in all walks of life anger me. But I'm pleased when I see players reaping the benefits for all the hard work they put in. And it's a heart warming sight when the



supporters, who turn up in their thousands to cheer us, have something to shout about at the end of the day.

"Our fans are not only the best in the country, but the best in the world. They're absolutely fabulous."

"Pressure and the urgency to get results affect me, but I have no fears. You can interpret fear as meaning a thousand different things without really meaning it."

"For me the biggest problem is not to calm players down, but to gee them up. Mainly, managing football clubs is 99 per cent man management. It's getting players to respect you and for you to respect them and to build up a rapport between the two. This we've done very well at Aston Villa."

"The sign of success in football is to have too many fixtures. If you're lucky, you're in Europe and you're entered for four competitions. All successful sides must have a big squad of players to cater for injuries and to carry the programme through. If you have a lot of games it means that money is flowing into the coffers and that the club can become big."

Last term, amid a congested and cluttered fixture list, Villa won the League Cup, they reached the last eight of the F.A. Cup and finished fourth in the First Division Championship race. The signs all point to a golden era for this famous club.

Ron Saunders is a man of action, but what's his secret?

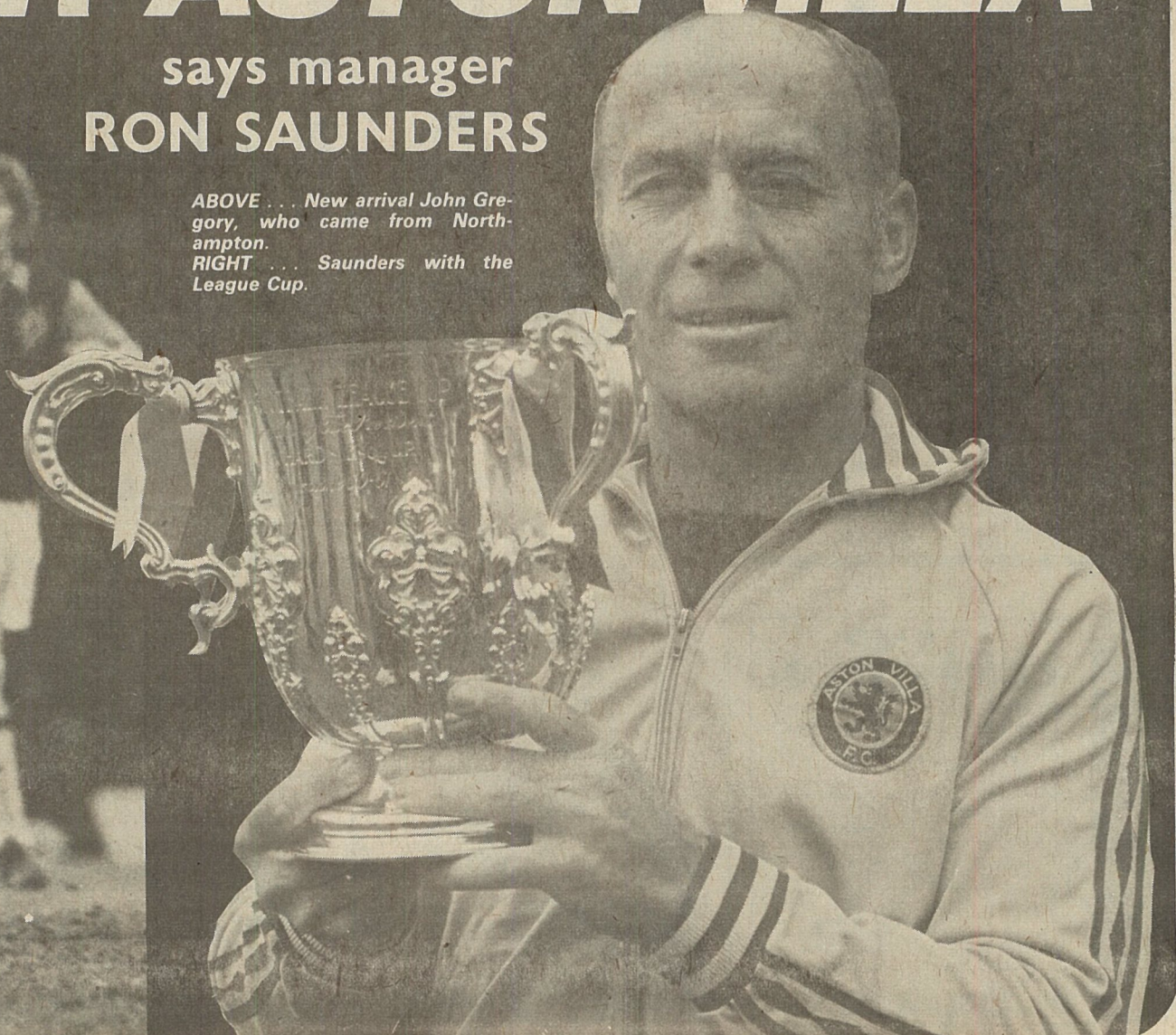
"I'm just lucky," he says.

'THE IMPOSSIBLE CAN HAPPEN FOR ASTON VILLA'

says manager
RON SAUNDERS

ABOVE . . . New arrival John Gregory, who came from Northampton.

RIGHT . . . Saunders with the League Cup.



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STOCKPORT, ENGLAND

This is No. 1 of a series of illustrations



STAMP COMPETITION

Can you tell us?

1. What country issued "The Penny Black" in 1840?
2. What country NEVER puts its name on its stamps?
3. Have Writers or Poets ever appeared on British stamps?
4. Has TUTANKHAMUN ever appeared on British stamps?

Prizes: 12 diff Great Britain stamps sent free for each correct answer. If all 4 answers correct, we will send you 50 diff G.B. stamps plus a fine facsimile block of 6 unused PENNY BLACKS (genuine originals would cost £1,000 or more!). Our fine New Approvals will also be sent to all entrants. Please enclose a 7p stamp for postage. (Please tell your parents you are writing.)

D. J. HANSON LTD, (Dept. SH21),
Eastrington, Goole, North Humberside, DN14 7QG



CRAIG: We feel we have something to prove to Middlesbrough fans in this "derby," John. At Ayresome Park last season Newcastle played a defensive game which was different to our usual style, and we took plenty of stick from spectators. This time our approach will be different — we won't go defensive.

CRAGGS: Our approach will be different, too. Middlesbrough's new manager, John Neal, has his own ideas which will be reflected in our type of game. I feel confident we can win, perhaps by two clear goals, Tommy.

CRAIG: I'm anticipating the scoreline to read 2-1 to Newcastle, because we'll be attacking more than we did last season on your ground. Not that we will under-rate the Boro back-four, who are rated next to Liverpool's for efficiency — but Mickey Burns, for example, is good enough to find a way past most defences.

CRAGGS: True, Mickey is dangerous, sharp, and good on the ball. But so is David Mills, for us — and with the unsettled atmosphere at Newcastle, it's possible some of your players may be affected by it. Whereas at Middlesbrough, the team as a whole is optimistic about getting a good result — and as an ex-Newcastle player I have an extra incentive to win.

CRAIG: Well, a "derby" is such a one-off thing it's difficult to predict

BIG MATCH

CROSSTALK

Middlesbrough v. Newcastle United Saturday, August 27th

just what is going to happen on the day, or how the teams will react. Though I do know Middlesbrough are never easy to beat on their own ground — but we'll have enough of our fans there to make it seem almost like a home game for Newcastle.

CRAGGS: For matches against Newcastle, our supporters usually rise to the occasion. And whether they will have a lot to cheer about will depend very much on how the game is going in the first-half. If the score is 0-0 at the interval, the second-half could develop into a

defensive battle. But a goal early on may motivate both teams, and the fans could be treated to some good football.

CRAIG: I can appreciate how Boro-Newcastle "derbies" stir the imagination of the spectators in the North-East. As a Scot, I'm not steeped in local football lore, but I know I'll still be feeling the additional tension on the day of the match.

CRAGGS: There should be plenty of action, and excitement, Tommy, in your territory, the midfield area.

For us, Graeme Souness likes to stamp his authority on it early in the game, and with Newcastle wanting to do the same, the outcome in this section will decide where the points go.

CRAIG: Our work-rate has always been one of our strong points, and played a big part in taking us into Europe, so we feel that whether the game is defensive or open we will have the stamina to carry us through successfully. And we are prepared for a hard 90 minutes.

CRAGGS: I don't think either side will be able to relax, as I know from experience the pace will be non-stop. I've only once been in a winning Boro team against Newcastle, and hope to make this the second.

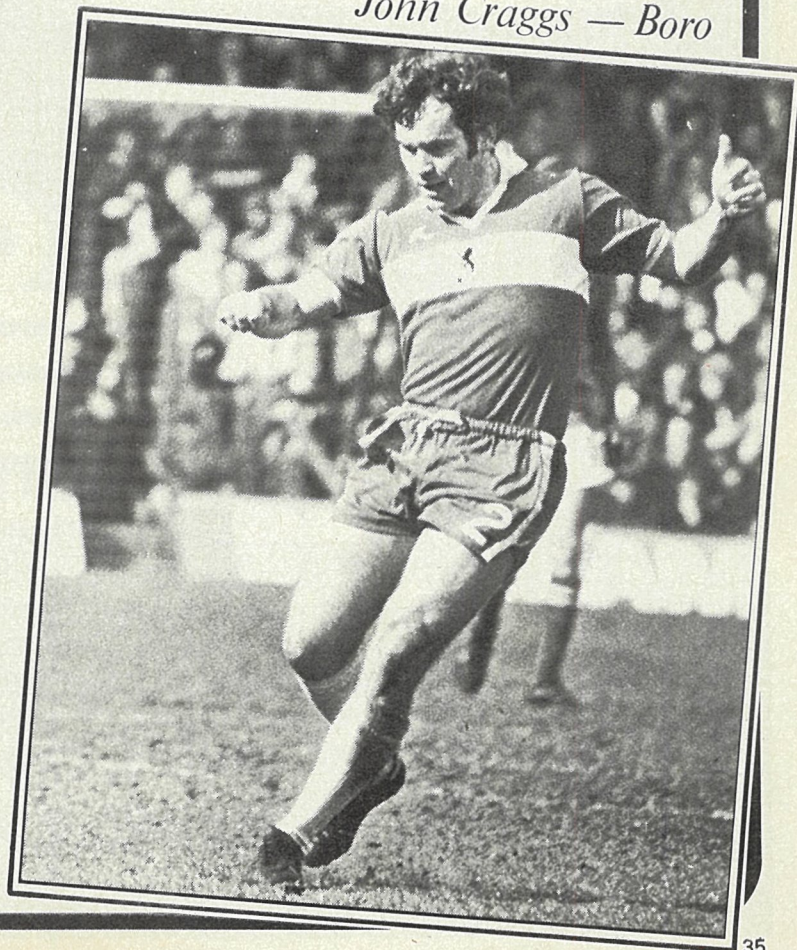
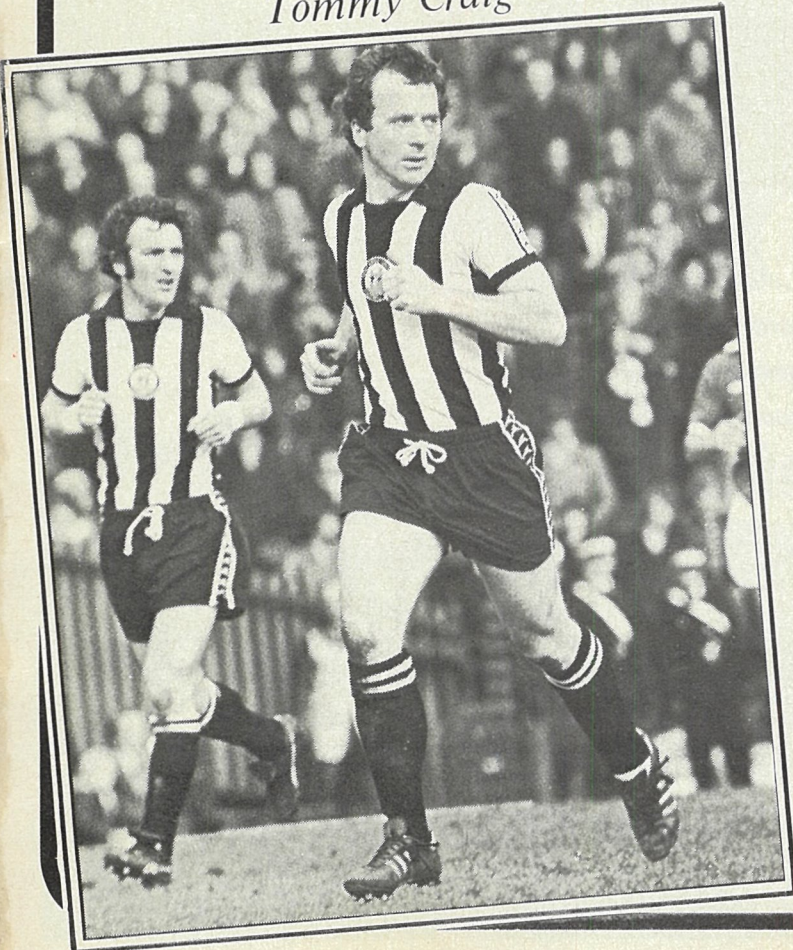
CRAIG: Although this is a special occasion, I don't think either side is likely to be bothered too much by "nerves," John. If chances are created, it's safe to say some will be taken — we plan to set more up than in our previous meeting at Ayresome.

CRAGGS: As a full-back, my job is to see to it we don't allow too much shooting space to the Newcastle forwards — in fact, I'm banking on us keeping a clean sheet.

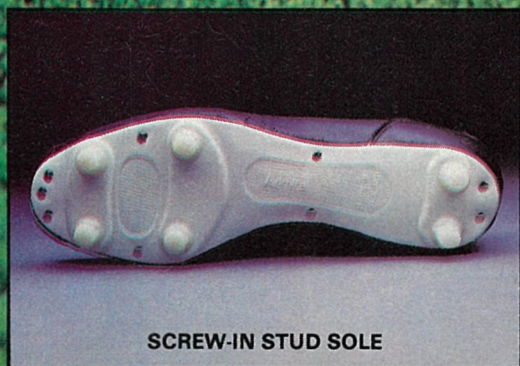
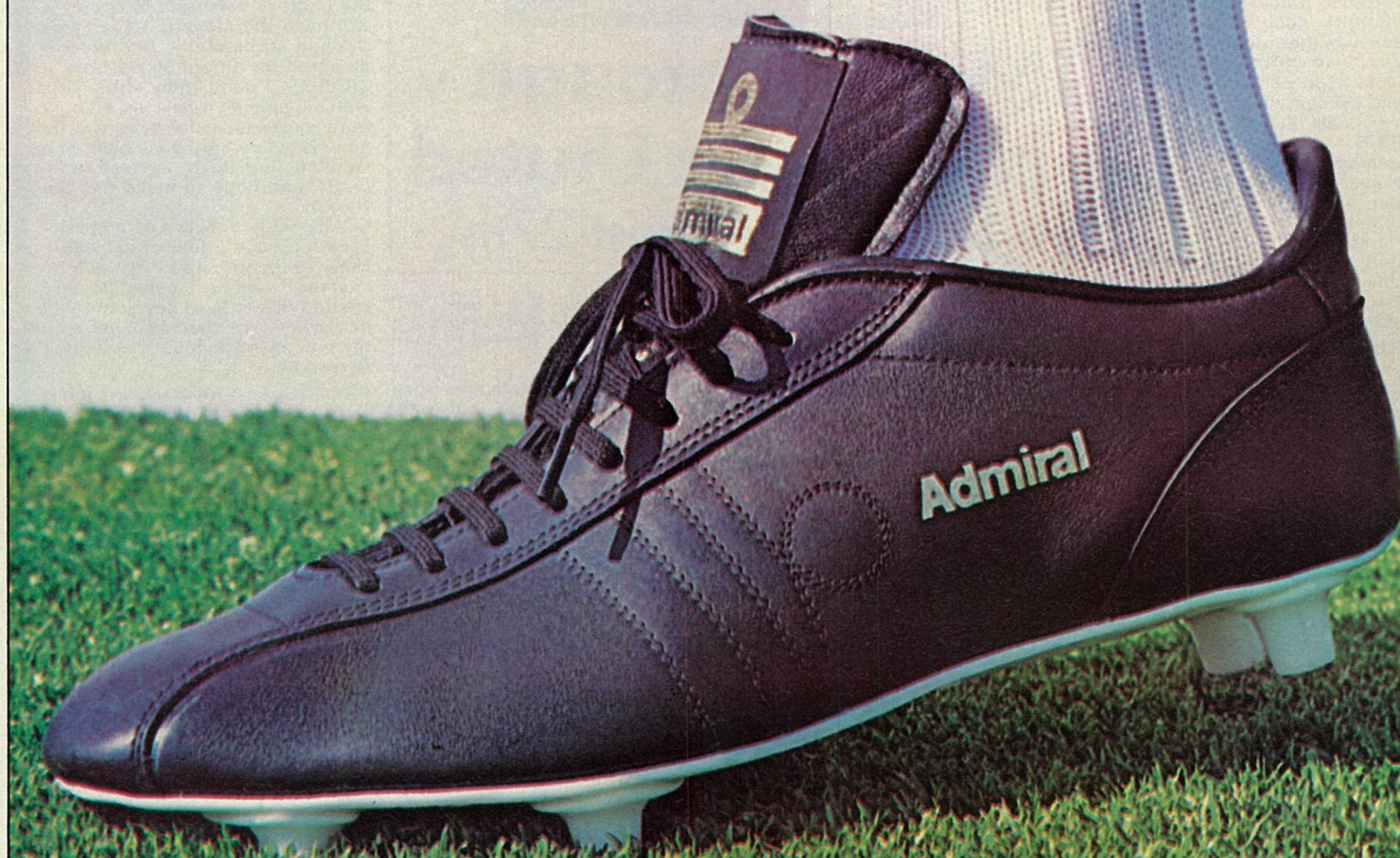
CRAIG: At least, both of us are well aware of what our roles in the game will be — and we agree the winners will score two goals. I hope they go to the team that deserves them.

**'This time we won't
go defensive' —
Tommy Craig — Newcastle**

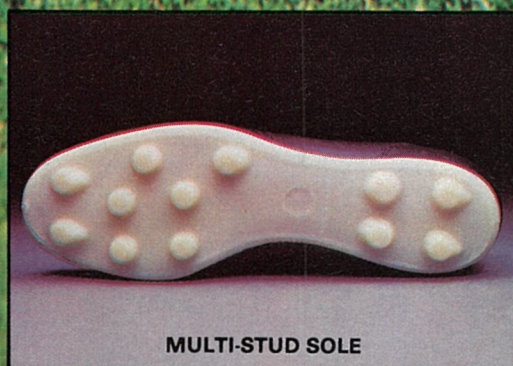
**'We'll win — perhaps
by two clear goals' —
John Craggs — Boro**



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**FOCUS
ON**

JIMMY CASE

LIVERPOOL

FULL NAME: James Robert Case

BIRTHPLACE: Liverpool

BIRTHDATE: 18th May, 1954

HEIGHT: 5ft 9½in

WEIGHT: 11st 12lb

PREVIOUS CLUB: South

Liverpool (amateur)

MARRIED: Yes

CHILDREN: No

CAR: Cortina

FAVOURITE PLAYER: Johan Cruyff

FAVOURITE OTHER SIDE:

Holland's national team

MOST DIFFICULT OPPONENT:

There are quite a few

MOST MEMORABLE MATCH:

European Cup Final

BIGGEST THRILL: Receiving my winners' medal at the end of the Final

BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT:

Losing to Manchester United at Wembley . . . and therefore The Treble

BEST COUNTRY VISITED:

Holland

FAVOURITE FOOD: Steak, egg 'n chips, Chinese

MISCELLANEOUS LIKES:

Shooting, fishing, records

MISCELLANEOUS DISLIKES:

Smoking, queueing, hanging around

FAVOURITE T.V. SHOWS: Little

and Large, Wild Life programmes

FAVOURITE SINGERS: Paul

McCartney, Kiki Dee, 10CC

FAVOURITE ACTORS: Clint

Eastwood, Charles Bronson, Jack

Nicholson

BEST FRIEND: I have a few very good friends

BIGGEST INFLUENCES ON

CAREER: Mum and Dad and

everyone at Liverpool

BIGGEST DRAG IN SOCCER:

Travelling by coach and tying my boots up

INTERNATIONAL HONOURS:

One England Under-23 cap against Hungary

PERSONAL AMBITION: To be

happy and secure with a family

PROFESSIONAL AMBITION: To

gain a regular England place

IF YOU WEREN'T A

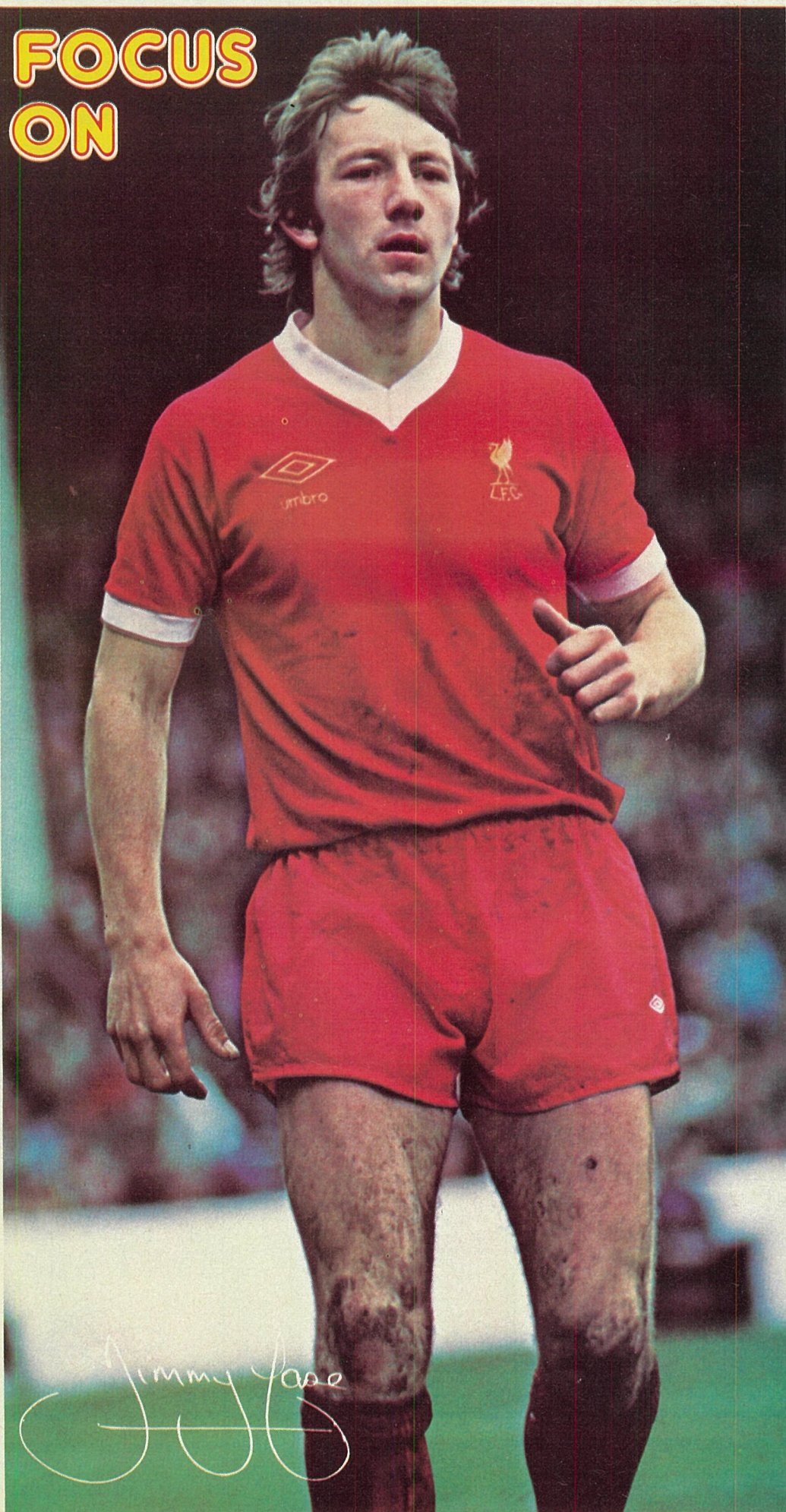
FOOTBALLER WHAT DO YOU

THINK YOU'D BE? I'm a qualified electrician

WHICH PERSON IN THE

WORLD WOULD YOU MOST

LIKE TO MEET? Paul McCartney

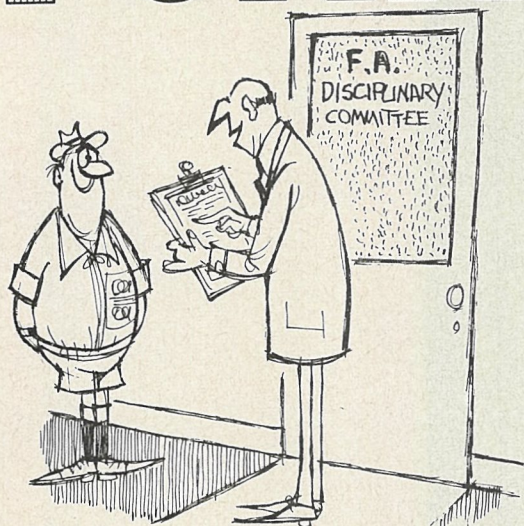


SHOOT!

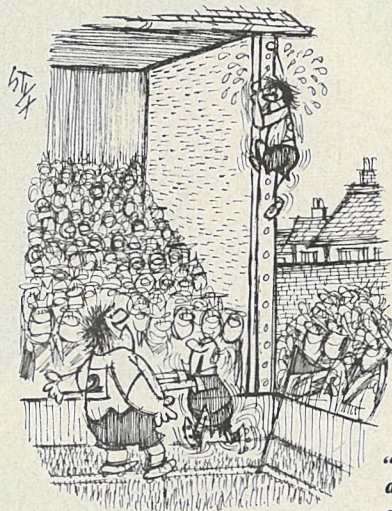
FOOTBALL FUNNIES



This week Blackpool's Bob Hatton selects the jokes specially drawn by our cartoonist Styx.



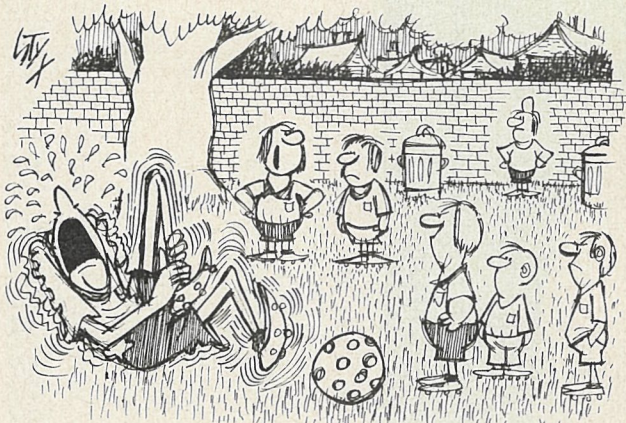
"Ah! You've been charged with behaviour likely to bring discredit to the game. For example, you haven't booked a single player in the last five years"



"Are you thick or something? Can't you see he doesn't want you to kiss him for scoring that goal!"



"The boss is always giving me difficult little soccer questions — like — what's the difference between my left foot and my right?"



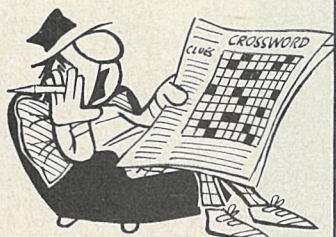
"Can't your old man forget that he once played as a pro?"



"That's Hopeless Harry. We gave him a free transfer last season — and now he comes back and scores a hat-trick"

NOBBY

SEVEN LETTERS STARTING WITH 'P' AND REFEREES USE THEM



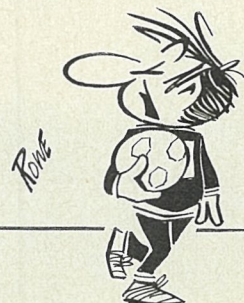
HAVE YOU TRIED "WHISTLE"



WHISTLE HASN'T GOT A 'P' IN IT, YOU TWIT!



IT'S THE REF WHO'S A TWIT USING A WHISTLE WITHOUT A PEA IN IT!



New manager George Eastham-

'NO LACK OF CONFIDENCE AT STOKE'

OF COURSE we want to go straight back up — but that's what everybody's hoping for. Another 21 clubs will be wishing the same and it's nobody's divine right.

"Going down last term was just one of those things. But I've a good set of lads and there's no lack of confidence. We have made a couple of signings and it's possible we will make one or two more. We would like another striker and another midfield player.

"At the moment Peter Shilton is staying, though obviously he's a good 'keeper and we don't want to lose him — but it depends on what he feels.

"Being a manager is naturally not the same as being a player. On the field you could do it yourself, now you're relying on everyone else. You just hope you're doing the right things during the week and that it'll work out on the Saturday. I don't know how I'll feel when the season ends, but certainly I'm not under any stress at the moment."

George Eastham (above) hopes to keep Peter Shilton (left) at The Victoria Ground. Stuart Pearson scores Manchester United's third goal in their 3-0 win over Stoke at Old Trafford last season.



SEND YOUR QUESTIONS TO:

ASK THE EXPERT

SHOOT!, IPC Magazines Ltd., King's Reach Tower,
Stamford Street, London, SE1 9LS.

£1 FOR EVERY LETTER PUBLISHED

Not so lucky Clemence

I've got a £1 bet with a pal that it was Ray Clemence who kept goal in England's 2-1 defeat by Scotland at Hampden in 1976. He says Peter Shilton. Please either boost my winnings to £2 — or else send me the £1 to pay up with!

JOHN PAGE,
CONSETT

● Lucky old you, John — there's another pound on the way to add to your loot!

Not so lucky was Ray Clemence — he was beaten by Masson and Dalglish and, unlike you, was on the losing side!

Q.P.R. win at Wembley

What was the Q.P.R. team, and who were the scorers, when they beat West Bromwich in the 1967 League Cup Final?

GUY CURTIS,
BRISTOL

● In this first-ever Wembley League Cup Final — previously, it had been played on a home-and-away aggregate basis — Rangers lined-up like this, Guy.

Peter Springett, Tony Hazell, Jim Langley, Frank Sibley — recently appointed as the club's new manager — Ron Hunt, Mike Keen, Mark Lazarus, Keith Sanderson, Les Allen, Rodney Marsh, and Roger Morgan. The sub. was Ian Morgan, Roger's twin.

After First Division West Bromwich, the holders, had taken a 2-0 lead with goals from Clive Clark — himself a former Rangers' player — then Third Division Q.P.R. hit back in the second-half to win with goals from Roger Morgan, Marsh, and Lazarus.

Fulham's long route to Final

Who did Fulham beat to reach the 1975 F.A. Cup Final?

ARON COKE,
STEVENAGE

● They certainly got to Wembley the hard way, Aron.

First of all, Fulham beat Hull 1-0 at the third attempt (after 1-1 and 2-2 draws); and then Nottingham Forest were disposed of 2-1 at the fourth attempt (after 0-0, 1-1, and 1-1 draws).

The next two rounds they managed first-time-out — beating Everton 2-1, and Carlisle 1-0.

But it was back to a replay in the Semi-Finals, when Birmingham were defeated 1-0 (after a 1-1 draw).

The Final only lasted the normal 90 minutes, though — but, alas for weary Fulham, fellow-Londoners West Ham beat them 2-0.

John Atyeo

How many League games and goals did John Atyeo have for Bristol City?

MICHAEL PASSMORE,
TAUNTON

● Between 1951 and 1966, Michael, Atyeo played 597 League games for the club — scoring 315 goals.

Both, not surprisingly, are Bristol City records.

Only three British players have scored more than this magnificent tally of League goals for a single club — Jimmy McGrory (397 for Celtic); Dixie Dean (349 for Everton); and George Camsell (326 for Middlesbrough).

All square

Has the British Championship ever been shared by all four countries?

GAVIN RAW,
DONCASTER

● Yes, it has, Gavin — but only once. That was in 1955-56 — when England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland all finished-up with three points.

And it was even "more equal" than that — as each nation won, drew, and lost one match.

Youngest 'keeper

Who's the youngest player ever to play in an English First Division game, and what age was he at the time?

NIGEL BUTLER,
BRIGHTON

● Derek Forster was the man — or, rather, boy! — Nigel.

Young Derek had reached the ripe old age of 15 years and 185 days when he played for Sunderland against Leicester on 22nd August, 1964.

He's also the youngest to keep goal in any of the four Divisions.

SHORT PASSES

Leeds' record home gate is 57,892 (v. Sunderland, F.A. Cup Fifth Round replay, 15th March 1967).

(PAUL SHRIMPTON,
Portsmouth)

Record F.A. Cup Final victory is Bury 6, Derby 0 in 1903; next-best Blackburn 6, Sheffield Wednesday 1 in 1890.

(ARRON BULLOCK, Norwich)

Our Expert would like to point out that although all letters are read, he can only reply to published questions because of shortage of time.

THERE are 22 managers in the First Division and every one of them has his eyes fixed on the League Championship this season.

As I said last week, Manchester United's new boss Dave Sexton has made no hasty promises of rapid success, but I know he'll be extremely disappointed if we are not in serious contention this term.

Unless United have a disastrous start I can't imagine us being anything but challengers for the crown Liverpool have worn for two years.

To many experts the Merseysiders are favourites, but I don't reckon they will take the title for the third season in succession.

Only two clubs have achieved this feat . . . Huddersfield in the 1920's and Arsenal in the 1930's.

Liverpool hardly need motivating, but after last season's tremendous success they may relax that little bit.

Trying to hold on to the European Cup and battling to win a hat-trick of Championships may prove too much even for Liverpool.

No Kevin Keegan, but as I said in a previous column, the secret of their success is team-work and an enormous strength in depth.

And, if they haven't a youngster coming through the ranks to replace an "ageing" regular, the money is there to buy a ready-made replacement. As they proved by splashing out £440,000 on Kenny Dalglish recently.

It says a lot for the talent available at Anfield that a player of Dave Johnson's class can't be guaranteed a place in the first team.

A Force

Anyhow, the club that finishes above Liverpool could be Champions — I'm sure that team will be Manchester United.

Apart from us, Manchester City, runners-up last season, must be a force to be reckoned with.

There's hardly a chink in the Maine Road armour, which was recently completed by the £300,000 signing of Mike Channon.

City Champions? A distinct possibility.

Aston Villa, fourth last time out, are another obvious title prospect.

Manager Ron Saunders has all but rebuilt the team over the past couple of years.

With players such as John Deehan, Brian Little, Andy Gray, Leighton Phillips and new signings Ken McNaught from Everton and Jimmy Rimmer from Arsenal, it's a safe bet that they will add to their League Cup triumph of last season at home — and in Europe where they join Manchester City, Newcastle and Ipswich in the U.E.F.A. Cup.

Ipswich Town, third last season, will also feature strongly in the title stakes . . . if they have an injury-free run.

Skipper Mick Mills, Kevin Beattie, Allan Hunter and Trevor Whymark were four stars who missed vital matches last season . . . one reason why they fell behind the leaders at a

crucial time.

I'd like to see Ipswich win something, for all the hard work and good football they've produced over the past few years.

They are the visitors to Old Trafford this Saturday (August 27th) and will obviously be hoping to repeat last season's 1-0 victory.

Clive Woods, a player I admire and enjoy watching, scored the points winner.

We are expecting another hard-fought tussle this time.

Leeds United are on their way back and could be a danger, although maybe not in the League.

They could lack the consistency needed to stand a real chance in the Championship.

Both Newcastle and Arsenal have had problems behind-the-scenes to

my soccer scene

GORDON HILL

contend with . . . problems that could cost them honours. Although new coach Don Howe may help to boost The Gunners this term.

Queens Park Rangers and West Ham struggled against relegation last season. Perhaps they won't find life so tough this time, especially Rangers under new manager Frank Sibley, but I can't see them ending with anything but a respectable mid-table position.

Derby also had a tough time surviving in the First Division last term. But manager Colin Murphy, who has held on to his job despite continued speculation regarding his future, appears determined to raise the club's status.

A good team on paper, but not good enough to take the title.

If Frank McLintock makes as much progress as other young bosses Terry Venables, Alan Mullery,



Coventry, in action against United last season, could be one of this term's surprise teams.

Johnny Giles and Graham Taylor, then the future looks rosy for Leicester City.

Another of soccer's mystery clubs are Leicester. They've promised so much over the years yet have produced nothing.

Perhaps this will be their breakthrough season.

No disrespect to manager Ronnie Allen, but I can't see West Brom being a real threat this season . . . unless he can motivate a moderate team the same way Johnny Giles did.

If not, then I'm afraid Albion could struggle, maybe even for their First Division lives.

No relegation fears for Birmingham City, though, especially if Trevor Francis and new-boys Keith Bertschin and Tony Towers shine.

They established themselves in the top Division last term and could well be pushing for honours this time.

I know this will surprise many of you, but I think Coventry City could do reasonably well.

The Sky Blues have been overcast for the past several years and will be tipped by many experts as one for the drop.

It's just a hunch, but I've a feeling



Trying to retain both the European Cup and League Championship could prove too much for the mighty Merseysiders.

'No title hat-trick for Liverpool'



Coventry's determination to bring back the missing fans to their wonderful stadium will bring success.

With Welsh skipper Terry Yorath leading the pack anything is possible.

Everton and Middlesbrough won't achieve much this term. Gordon Lee has turned Goodison upside-down and there are many fine players at the club.

They'll remain in Liverpool's shadow for a while yet.

New Middlesbrough manager John Neal may make the team more attractive to watch, but some rebuilding may be necessary before they can think of the title coming to Ayresome.

Of the newly-promoted teams Chelsea will make the most impact.

The resignation of manager Eddie McCreadie was a shock, but Ken Shellito is Chelsea through and through. He's probably had a great deal to do with the team's progress, anyhow.

They might even do as well as United did when they came back up a couple of years ago . . . and take the First Division by storm.

Brian Clough's Nottingham Forest and Wolves should also prosper.

For the first time in several seasons we could see all three promoted clubs steer clear of the relegation zone.

Who's for the big drop? Well, that's something I always hate predicting. I've already tipped West Brom as relegation possibles. The others could be Norwich City and Bristol City.

Norwich, without Phil Boyer — the man who made them tick — look brittle.

So do Bristol City. I like the way

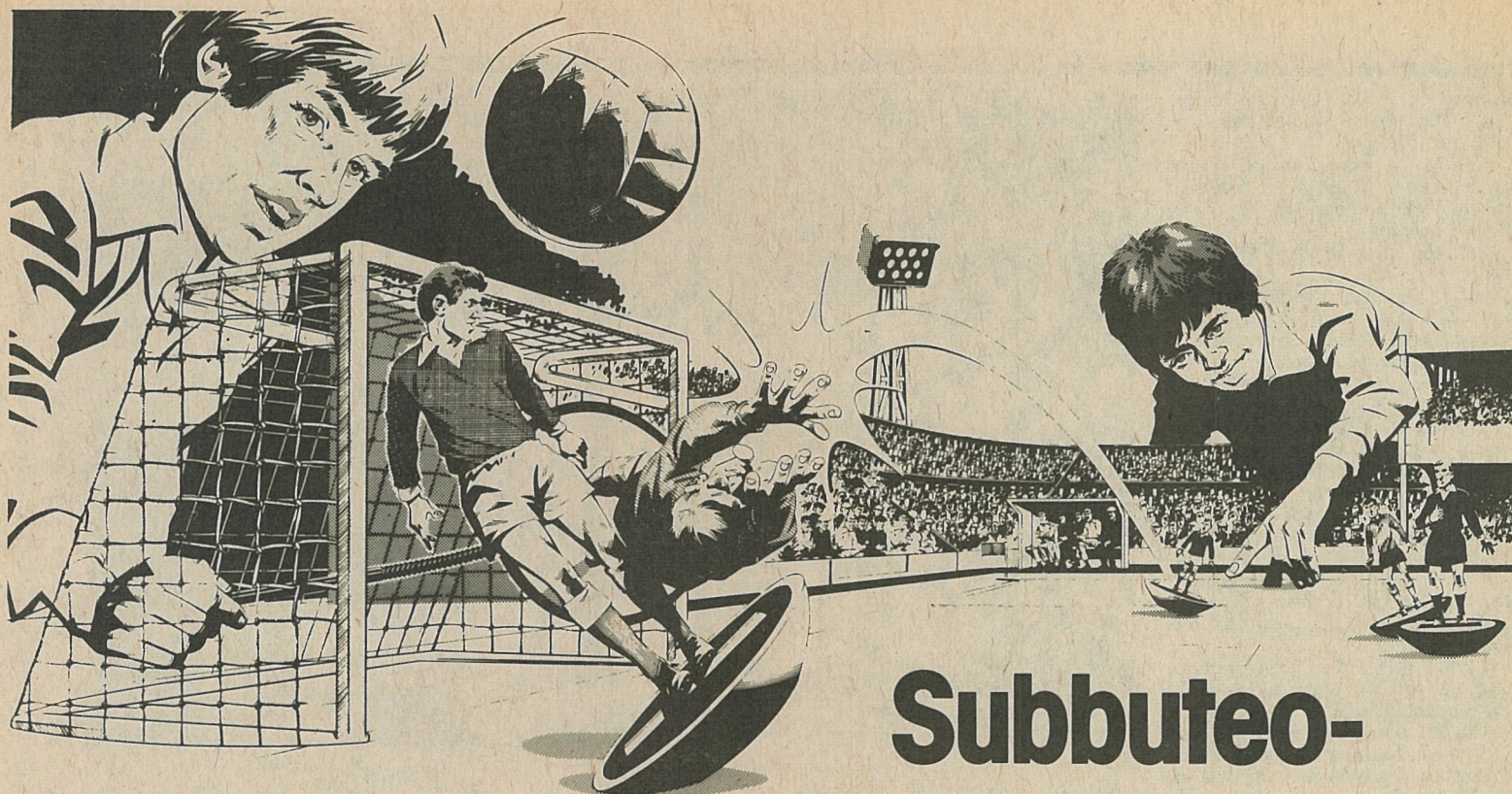
the club play football, but feel they lack the resources to stay up.

Just enough space left to welcome new columnist Ray Wilkins. Nice having you on the team, Ray.

See you next week . . .

Gordon Hill





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WILL THE GREEKS CAUSE ANOTHER SENSATION?

WHEN the European Cup comes around again, on September 14th, Panathinaikos won't be among the favourites. The Greek club weren't in 1971, but under Ferenc Puskas they reached the Final at Wembley only to be beaten by that marvellous Ajax side.

Panathinaikos are back in the European Cup and their fans are quietly confident their team could cause another sensation.

And the Greeks are pinning their hopes on a Pole who has proved himself at the highest level.

The manager of Panathinaikos is Kazimierz Gorski (right), who put Polish soccer on the map as he master-minded their third-place in the 1974 World Cup Finals.

Before Gorski, Poland had been very much on the fringe of the

European soccer scene. Now, they're virtually certain to be in Argentina next year.

Gorski left Poland for Greece last December. He'd gone as far as he could and the time was ripe for him to hand over to his 1974 assistant, Jacek Gmoch.

Poland had lost their Olympic gold medal to East Germany and Gorski, having laid the foundations, stepped down.

Down, but certainly not out. He flew to Greece on December 4th to take over the Athens club, who were then lying fourth in the League.

Now, Gorski is a hero again. He led Panathinaikos to the Double and with his knowledge of tactics plus experience of Europe, the Greeks could surprise a few people



... just as AEK Athens did last season.

What has Gorski done in his short spell? He's tightened up on discipline and made every player more aware of his responsibilities.

Old habits die hard and Gorski, as in the old days, never shaves prior to a match.

He says it works... and the Greeks now have every reason to believe him.

CELTA striker Poli recently married the daughter of the wealthy mayor of the Spanish city of Zamora... and immediately announced his retirement from football.

BRAZIL'S BASE

BRAZIL have been informed by Argentina that they'll be based in Mar del Plata for next year's World Cup Finals.

The Brazilian's aren't too happy. The climate in the seaside resort is damp and chilly in June, while the stadium holds only 40,000.

Brazil will have more supporters than anyone (except, of course, the hosts) in Argentina, so there could be chaos!

WEST GERMAN Second Division club Bonner SC have been expelled from professional football by their Football Association because their debts have exceeded £300,000. The club have now started court proceedings against the F.A.

THAT FIGURES

HOW'S this for a set of figures: On 7/7/77 West German World Cup star Jurgen Grabowski of Eintracht Frankfurt was 33 because, of course, he was born in '44. He's played 44 games for his country... the first 11 years ago.

ITALIAN star Gianni Rivera decided to invest some of his money and bought two paintings for £50,000.

The police have since been called in... the "works of art" turned out to be forgeries!

WORLD CUP TROUBLE — IN 1986!

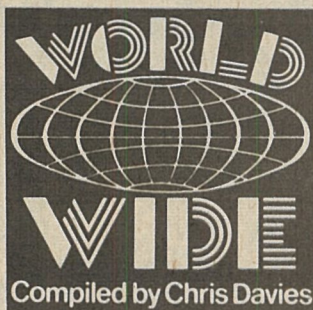
THE 1986 World Cup is already creating controversy in Colombia. After the city of Cali had successfully staged the World Cup play-off between Brazil, Peru and Bolivia, the city claimed the right to be the main centre for 1986.

This provoked a sharp reaction from the authorities in the Colombian capital, Bogotá, and an official statement was issued confirming that Bogotá will be the main centre, and that the Final will be played in the city's "El Campin" stadium.

Incidentally, there'll certainly be altitude problems in 1986. Bogotá is 8,500 feet above sea level.

RUSSIAN soccer seems to be in a bit of a muddle — of the first 11 games this season 44 per cent ended in a draw.

● Iran are favourites to qualify for the World Cup Finals from the Asia/Oceania group after winning 1-0 in Australia.



AUSTRIA'S MISSING FANS

ATTENDANCES in the Austrian Bundesliga have dropped from over a million in 1974-75 to 856,000 last season. Champions SC Swarovski Wacker Innsbruck attracted the "biggest" gates, averaging 6,650 for their League games, while Cup winners FK Austria averaged 6,250.

SC Rapid (Vienna) the traditional Champions pulled in an average of 6,000 while neighbours Admira/Wacker had the lowest averages with only 3,000 per game.

IT HAS now been confirmed that Fluminense of Rio de Janeiro have received an offer from the Cosmos for Francisco Marinho and Rivelino to join them after the World Cup. The amount offered wasn't revealed, but it is said to be "impossible to refuse".

COLOMBIA, World Cup hosts in 1986 (see story this page), were praised for the way they organised the South American play-off group. The Press said that as a test, this "Mundialito" proved Colombia will be good hosts in '86.

TV BONANZA

FOR FANS who cannot go to see the games live in the World Cup in Argentina, T.V. is a very real compensation. Amongst the best-off fans will be those in West Germany where it has been announced there will be screened 55 hours of "live" play.

As in 1974, the Germans will screen games the following day, too, in normal working hours, for the benefit of shift workers and all told there will be 300 minutes of football daily during the competition.

WORLD CUP ADS

CERTAIN advertising will be banned from the 1978 World Cup stadia. For instance, there will be no ads for cigarettes, religion or politics... alcohol is okay, but only for drinks up to 28 per cent proof.

OFFER TO ITALY

ARGENTINIAN Champions Boca Juniors are convinced that Italy will qualify for next year's World Cup. They've already offered the Italians the use of their La Candela complex in San Justo for their team headquarters.

CRUYFF MISSES START OF SEASON



BARCELONA captain Johan Cruyff has suffered a tricky ankle injury which will keep him out of the opening games of the Spanish Championship.

Cruyff's injury was the result of a build-up of calcium like tissue which eventually began to touch a nerve and cause a lot of pain.

The operation to remove the offending tissue took no less than three hours, with a neurologist standing by to supervise work close to the nerve.

Cruyff is expected back in action in about a month and this has been a financial disaster for Barcelona.

The club had planned eight pre-season friendlies to raise some much-

needed cash, but without Cruyff their fee dropped by 30 per cent.

Possibly more important is the long-term effect, because Barcelona have a tough opening to the League campaign with games against both Madrid clubs PLUS Stueva Bucharest in the U.E.F.A. Cup.

It's also a stiff test for manager Rinus Michels. With Cruyff in his team he's based Barcelona's style on the Dutchman's unique talents.

Now he must give added responsibility and confidence to his Spanish players.

At the moment the big question is: can Barcelona play without Cruyff?

SHOOT: After 82 internationals you are a very experienced player, but is it difficult to follow in the shoes of a man as successful as Franz Beckenbauer?

VOGTS: So far it has not been a problem. Being captain of a successful team is not so difficult and since I took over we've had a very good South American tour. If you are successful I think it is always easy.

SHOOT: We have heard stories that



Berti Vogts

Captain of Borussia Mönchengladbach, Bundesliga Champions, and West Germany, World Champions

SHOOT: Borussia Mönchengladbach have already lost Henning Jensen and Uli Stielike to Real Madrid, and after the World Cup it seems that Rainer Bonhof is set to sign for Valencia. Can Borussia stand the loss of such players and still remain one of the top teams in the Bundesliga?

VOGTS: Stielike's place in midfield should with luck be filled by Dietmar Danner, a really outstanding international midfield player who never played at all last season

through injury. Then we have signed several good players who will develop and I am optimistic about the near future.

SHOOT: Did Borussia have enough money to buy a big name replacement for Henning Jensen, for it is clear you have not had a really good centre-forward since he left? Or is it against club policy to sign cheques for millions of marks?

VOGTS: Borussia isn't swimming in money, first because playing in a

'A European team can win the World Cup in Argentina'

Beckenbauer helped Mr. Schoen pick the team, acting as spokesman for the other players. Was that true?

VOGTS: I hope to carry on as Franz did, but I never heard that he picked the team. Mr. Schoen talked with Franz about many problems concerning the team and the names of many players were always in the air. But Mr. Schoen was responsible for the side and always made the selections.

SHOOT: Will Beckenbauer be badly missed in the 1978 World Cup or do you have improving young players ready to fill the space?

VOGTS: At first I thought his leaving was a disaster. I still hope that Franz might come back, but my head tells me he will never return from the USA. If not, then I am sure that Manfred Kaltz of Hamburger SV will be the best man for his job.

SHOOT: Beckenbauer was offered the kind of money that would be a temptation to anyone, if he signed for the Cosmos. But we heard stories about him being in debt to the tax collectors in Germany. Is there anything in this?

VOGTS: I do not really want to comment. It's a question only Franz can answer. But when he left Germany many people and newspapers tried to start rumours about all kinds of things.

SHOOT: If you received a similar offer from the USA would you give in to the temptation to become a dollar millionaire?

VOGTS: At this time I would say "No" because my future looks to be secure and very interesting. The German F.A. have promised me the chance to become the coach of the national youth team, when I retire. In any case, I'm not the kind of man to think too much about my finance. I certainly can eat and drink and I earn good money. That's enough for me. I've never had ambitions to be a millionaire, for I hope my future is in football.



Berti Vogts and the West German players during their summer tour of South America.



ABOVE . . .
Germany's new goal-hero Klaus Fischer in action against Brazil's Luiz Pereira in Rio de Janeiro, where the home side snatched a rather lucky draw.

RIGHT . . . Franz Beckenbauer and Helmut Schoen. Vogts has taken over from "The Emperor" as his country's captain, but Schoen remains very much the boss.



BELOW . . . Uli Stielike is beaten by Ray Clemence during the European Cup Final. The Borussia star has since joined Real Madrid.

small town we do not get consistently high attendances. If we had money to spare I am sure we would buy a good striker, but I cannot see another player like Jensen anywhere in Europe. Borussia's policy is to save the money and improve our ground.

SHOOT: Can Borussia win the Bundesliga again this season with their depleted team? And do you think you can win the European Cup — or has your big chance gone?

VOGTS: Assuming everyone is fit, and given better luck about injuries than we had last season, we can win the Bundesliga again if Danner and Jupp Heynckes regain full fitness and form. Our chance in the European Cup is still good, but of course we do not know our future opponents. But I am sure that we will establish ourselves as European Champions in my time.

SHOOT: You played extremely well in the Semi-Finals of the European Cup against Dynamo Kiev but were only the shadow of that team against Liverpool. Can you explain what went wrong?

VOGTS: We have talked for hours,

and are still talking, about the reasons we lost in Rome. Why were we so weak that day? No answer. Why did so many players play below their usual form? No answer. It is a puzzle for us all. But I have made an oath: if we get to another Final, we will not be defeated again.

SHOOT: What did you think of Liverpool in Rome? Did their play surprise you? And do you think you could have won if Heynckes had been fully fit?

VOGTS: Liverpool did not surprise me at all, because I know very well how good English club football is. With a top fit Heynckes we would surely have put on a different face, and looked a different team, but as I have already said, we just cannot explain how we played so badly, even after weeks of discussions.

SHOOT: How did you find Kevin Keegan in Rome? Was he more difficult to control than you expected? And what do you think are Keegan's best qualities, and will he be a success with Hamburger SV?

VOGTS: Keegan was great in Rome,

but I know he doesn't play in such form every day. Certainly it was very difficult to control him, but I disagree with German papers who said I lost that duel ten to 90. My opinion is more like 60 to 40 in favour of Kevin Keegan.

I personally hope that Keegan will be a great success with Hamburger, but he will have a problem I think, with his role in the team. When he plays for England he is a striker, playing in the front, but Hamburg want him to play in the midfield. In my opinion he is a top attacking player, and in the end I think they will play him in that role.

SHOOT: Were you and Mr. Schoen satisfied with the German performances on your South American tour? Who were the biggest individual successes, and how do you compare your results with those of other European teams that have played in Argentina this year?

VOGTS: We were all more than satisfied with our showing on tour for it is not easy to do well in South America. Centre-forward Klaus Fischer was our biggest individual success, and if we can repeat our performances next year then I feel we have a very good chance to be in the last four in the World Cup.

I was very surprised by the results achieved, too, by England and Scotland and other European teams in South America. Certainly England and Scotland looked to be stronger than I thought. The South American teams have a lot to learn still from the European game, and I just hope that countries like Argentina and Brazil will not learn their lessons too well before next year. At the moment I see chances for the top European teams to do well in Argentina, perhaps even for a European team to win a World Cup in South America for the first time!



1. Can you spot the five deliberate mistakes in the following?

England's 4-0 World Cup win against Luxembourg did nothing to improve their chances of reaching this year's Finals.

England took the lead through Mike Channon and Kevin Keegan added a second before half-time.

Further goals by Ray Kennedy, another by Mike Channon and Paul Mariner after the interval finally wore down the brave part-timers from Luxembourg.



2. Did Coventry's Terry Yorath (above) win any Under-23 caps for Wales while playing for his former club Leeds United?

3. Here's one for our older readers — study the team group below and see how many of these former Wolves greats you can recognise.



TAKE A BREAK—IT'S QUIZ TIME

4. Newcastle United have had seven managers since the last War. George Martin, Duggie Livingstone, Charlie Mitten, Norman Smith, Gordon Lee and Richard Dinnis are six of them ... can you name the other one?

5. Did Andy Lynch (below), Johannes Edvaldsson or Kenny Dalglish score Celtic's only and winning goal from a penalty against Rangers in last season's Scottish Cup Final at Hampden?



6. Only one First Division club failed to record a victory away from home last season. Was it Derby County, Norwich City or Bristol City?

7. True or false: Gillingham are nicknamed The Gills?

8. Phil Neale (Lincoln), Arnold Sidebottom (Huddersfield) and Ted Hemsley (right, Doncaster) have something, apart from being footballers, in common ... do you know what it is?

9. The Charity Shield between Liverpool and Manchester United was played recently. Who kept goal for (a) the League Champions and (b) the F.A. Cup holders?

10. If you support the Scottish club from Stair Park this season — will you be following Stenhousemuir, Stirling Albion or Stranraer?



11. In which position did Jeff Wealds regularly play for Hull City last term?

12. Partick Thistle, Dundee and Hibs have won the Scottish League Cup in recent seasons. Which club won the trophy in (a) 1971-72, (b) 1972-73 and (c) 1973-74?

13. Pat Jennings was recently transferred from Spurs to Arsenal for around £40,000. Which Fourth Division club did the Northern Ireland goalkeeper begin his career with?

14. Did Paul Young, Neil Young or Billy Young score Manchester City's winning goal in the 1968-69 F.A. Cup Final against Leicester City?

15. In which countries would you find ... (a) Atvidaberg, (b) Ruch Chorzow, (c) Levski Spartak?

QUIZ TIME ANSWERS

1. (a) England won 5-0. (b) Finals are next year. (c) England took the lead through Kevin Keegan. (d) It was 1-0 at half-time. (e) Mariner did not score — Trevor Francis was the other scorer. 2. Yes, seven. 3. Back Row (left to right): Jimmy Mullin, Ron Flowers, Billy Wright, Fred Davies, Angus McLean, George Showell, Gerry Harris, Front Row: Terry Wharton, Peter Broadbent, Jimmy Murray, Bobby Mason. 4. Joe Harvey. 5. Andy Lynch. 6. Derby County. 7. True. 8. They play County Cricket. 9. (a) Ray Clemence (Liverpool), (b) Alex Stepney (Manchester United), 10. Stranraer, 11. Goal-keeper. 12. (a) Partick, (b) Hibs, (c) Dundee. 13. Watford. 14. Neil Young. 15. (a) Sweden, (b) Poland, (c) Bulgaria.

GO FOR THE DOUBLE ANSWERS

ACROSS:— (1) Essay. (5) Pal. (8) Davies. (10) Lane. (11) Alone. (13) Rye. (14) Baked. (15) Oak. (17) New. (18) Strips. (19) Or. (21) Hen. (22) Romance. (24) An. (25) Buy. (27) Archie. (28) Share. (29) Ewe. (31) Smiled.
DOWN:— (1) Evoke. (2) Sinew. (3) Seed. (4) As. (5) Parkin. (6) Any. (7) Leeds United. (8) Dab. (9) Alan Rough. (12) Rotherham. (16) Are. (19) Orb. (20) Snore. (23) My. (26) Heel. (27) Arm. (28) So. (30) We.
Jumbled Name: BRUCE RIOCH



compiled by John Pyke



Paul Garner (right) in action against Millwall

PEN-PICTURES OF FIRST TEAM SQUAD

(L.App.—League Appearances; G: Goals; S: Substitutes. All records to end of the 1976-77 season.)

JIMMY BROWN: Goalkeeper who was spotted playing for Albion Rovers in Scotland by Chesterfield and joined Sheffield United in March, 1974 for £60,000. Four Scottish Under-23 appearances and one full cap. Born Coatbridge. Ht. 5.11. Wt.12.4. L.App.— Albion Rovers 79, Chesterfield 47, Sheffield Utd 131.

CLIFF CALVERT: Defender or midfielder signed from York City in September, 1975 for £30,000. Born Wombwell. Ht.5.7. Wt.10.6. L.App.— York City 62 and 5 sub, Sheffield Utd 22 and 3 sub.

EDDIE COLQUHOUN: Central defender who made his debut for United v Huddersfield Town on October 19th, 1968 after being transferred from W.B.A. in October, 1968. One Scottish Under-23 appearance and has nine full caps. Born Prestonpans. Ht.6.0. Wt.12.2. L.App.— Bury 81, W.B.A. 46. Sheffield Utd 335 and 2 sub. G:— Bury 2. W.B.A. 1, Sheffield Utd 21.

STEVE CONROY: Goalkeeper who is second team choice and has yet to make his League debut for United. Signed professional for the Bramall Lane club in December, 1974. Born Chesterfield. Ht.5.11. Wt.12.2.

JOHN CUTBUSH: Defender signed from Fulham in April, 1977 after being on loan from the London club. John played in the Fulham side that were runners-up to West Ham in the 1975 F.A. Cup Final. Born in Malta. Ht. 5.10. Wt.10.10. L.App.— Fulham

RECORD VICTORY:
11-2 v Cardiff City, Division One, January 1st, 1926.

RECORD DEFEAT:
0-13 v Bolton Wanderers, F.A. Cup, Second Round, February 1st, 1890.

MOST LEAGUE POINTS IN A SEASON:
60 in Division Two, 1952-53.

MOST LEAGUE GOALS IN A SEASON:
41 by Jimmy Dunne, Division One, 1930-31.

128 and 3 sub. Sheffield Utd 13 and 1 sub. G: Fulham 3.

KEITH EDWARDS: Came to the fore as one of the top strikers in the Second Division last season, signed professional in December, 1975 and made his League debut as a substitute v Q.P.R. in February, 1976. Born Stockton. Ht.5.7. Wt.10.3. L.App.— 32 and 2 sub. G:—18.

JOHN FLYNN: Defender signed from Workington in July, 1969. Born Workington. Ht.6.0. Wt.11.4. L.App.— Workington 35 and 2 sub, Sheffield Utd 153 and 4 sub. G: Sheffield Utd 8.

COLIN FRANKS: Defender signed from Watford in June, 1973 for £60,000. A very fast player who won several sprint Championships. Born Wembley. Ht.5.11. Wt.12.8. L.App.— Watford 99 and 14 sub, Sheffield Utd 101 and 7 sub. G:— Watford 8, Sheffield Utd 3.

PAUL GARNER: Defender signed initially on loan from Huddersfield and was transferred in December, 1975 on permanent forms. Born Don-

HAVE United the players to bring First Division football back to Bramall Lane? Last season the club finished in 11th place and with 40 points, a situation that will not satisfy manager Jimmy Sirrel at the end of this season. So a definite improvement in United's performances is on the cards and Sheffield could well have a representative back in the First Division come next season.

The sale of striker Chris Guthrie to Swindon Town in July means that the goal burden will fall even more on evergreen Alan Woodward and Keith Edwards. In Edwards, United have a star that they will have a struggle to hang on to. His quick eye for the half-chance soon made him a favourite of the Bramall Lane crowd and he is certain to again attract the attention of the top clubs this term.

SHEFFIELD UNITED

GROUND: Bramall Lane
SIZE OF PITCH: 117 by 75 yards
TELEPHONE No: Sheffield 25585 and 730630
NICKNAME: 'Blades'
COLOURS: Shirts Red and White, thin Black vertical stripes: Shorts Black with Red and White stripe on side: Stockings: White with Red, Black and White top.

caster. Ht.5.6. Wt.9.10. L.App.— Huddersfield 96, Sheffield Utd 65. G:— Huddersfield 2, Sheffield Utd 1.

IAN HAMILTON: Experienced striker signed from Aston Villa for £30,000 in July, 1976. Born London. Ht.5.10. Wt.10.6. L.App.— Chelsea 3 and 3 sub, Southend 35 and 2 sub, Aston Villa 189 and 17 sub, Sheffield Utd 35 and 3 sub. G:— Chelsea 2, Southend 11, Aston Villa 39, Sheffield Utd 7.

GARY HAMSON: Striker signed professional in November, 1976 and made his League debut against Cardiff City in October, 1976. Born Nottingham. Ht.5.9½. Wt.10.2. L.App.— 29. G: 1.

TONY KENWORTHY: Midfielder who starred for Leeds and Yorkshire Schoolboys before signing professional in July, 1976. Born Leeds. Ht.



Manager Jimmy Sirrel

5.8. Wt. 10.8. L.App.— 42 and 1 sub. G:— 1.

DENNIS LONGHORN: Midfielder signed in November, 1976 from Sunderland and went straight into the United first team. Born Bournemouth. Ht. 5.11. Wt. 11.0. L.App.— Bournemouth 23 and 8 sub, Mansfield 93 and 3 sub, Sunderland 35 and 5 sub, Sheffield Utd 29 and 1 sub. G:— Bournemouth 1, Mansfield 5, Sunderland 3, Sheffield Utd 1.

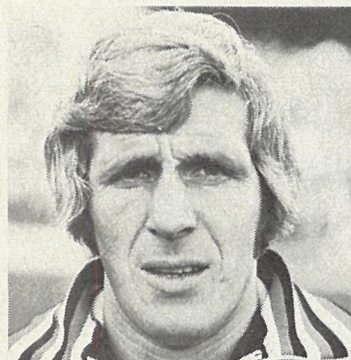
STEVE McKEE: Midfielder signed from Linfield in December, 1976. Born Belfast. Ht.5.8½. Wt.10.4. L.App.— 4 and 3 sub.

JIMMY SIRREL: Manager who played for Celtic, Bradford Park Avenue, Brighton and Aldershot. Then became trainer at Aldershot before taking over as manager of Brentford in 1965. In 1969 became manager of Notts County before moving to Sheffield United in 1975.

MICK SPEIGHT: Midfielder who has been at Bramall Lane since leaving school. Signed professional in May, 1968. Born at Upton, near Barnsley. Ht. 5.9½. Wt. 11.2½. L.App.— 81 and 11 sub. G:— 3.

SIMON STAINROD: Striker signed professional in July, 1976. Born Sheffield. Ht. 5.10. Wt. 11.1. L.App.— 26 and 2 sub. G:— 5.

ALAN WOODWARD: Striker and club captain who scored his 100th League goal at Tottenham in September, 1973. Signed professional in September, 1963. Born Sheffield. Ht. 5.8½. Wt. 11.8½. L.App.— 492. G:— 146.



Alan Woodward — club captain

TOP LEAGUE GOALSCORERS

For last five seasons

1972-73	Bill Dearden	20
1973-74	Alan Woodward	17
1974-75	Alan Woodward	12
1975-76	Alan Woodward	10
1976-77	Keith Edwards	18

SHREVE UNITED

BACK ROW: Cliff Calvert, John Flynn, Dennis Longhorn, Chris Guthrie (now Swindon Town), Steve Conroy, Jim Brown, Eddie Colquhoun, Colin Franks, Tony Kenworthy.

FRONT ROW: Gary Hamson, John Cutbush, Mick Speight, Alan Woodward, Ian Hamilton, Simon Stainrod, Steve McKee, Paul Garner, Keith Edwards.

